

This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

THE HISTORY OF TORQUAY.


STANFORD UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES



(c)
F + 12 LOTUS &
OTHERS ETC.
£20

The History of Torquay.



THE QUAY AND PARK HILL, 1680.

E. Lewis Barry

THE

HISTORY OF TORQUAY

BY

J. T. WHITE.

Illustrated.

(Entered at Stationers' Hall.)

TORQUAY:
PRINTED AT THE "DIRECTORY" OFFICE.
1878.

DA690
T69W5

"DIRECTORY" CO., TORQUAY.

PREFACE.

IN the following pages I have endeavoured to give the history of the district which has been variously described as Thor, Tor, Tor Briwire, Tor Brewer, Fleete, Tor Key, Tormohun, Tor Moone, Tormoham, and Torquay. For all postal purposes, for traffic arrangements, government business, and hydrographical records, the town has been known as Torquay for nearly a hundred years; for parochial and local government purposes it has been known as Tormohun and Tormoham respectively. In 1876 the Local Board of Health obtained the sanction of Government to alter the name of the district from Tormoham to Torquay, and accordingly that name has been adopted as the title of this book.

The sources from which I have derived my information are the works of old and modern historians, manuscripts and deeds, charters and court rolls, the records of the State Paper Office, and likewise the Reports of the Historical Manuscript Commissioners. In addition, the parish books, the parish registers, the churchwardens' book, the minute books of the Select Vestry, the Improvement Commissioners, and of the Torquay Local Board of Health, private letters, and the files of local newspapers, have been laid

under contribution. Besides this, from a long residence in Torquay, I have been enabled to obtain a considerable amount of oral testimony from old inhabitants. As a rule I have confined myself to the limits of the parish, excepting where the importance of the case has made it necessary for me to travel a little beyond in order to preserve a continuity in the record.

Some of my readers may consider the story of the Spanish Armada a little too prolix. In explanation I may say that I was advised to give it as fully as possible for many reasons. In the first place, the actual facts relating to the Spanish prize in Torbay are entirely unknown to the general public—the documents in reference thereto having only within recent years been rendered accessible; secondly, the traditionary statements respecting the fate of the Spanish crew are altogether erroneous; and thirdly, as the capture of this galleon was but a small episode in the ever memorable encounter in the Channel, historians have but briefly referred to it,—their attention being naturally directed to the main issue. The incidents and details which they have omitted are of the greatest interest to those who reside on the Torbay littoral, and it is these particulars that I have endeavoured to furnish.

I have touched but lightly on the subjects of Kent's Cavern and Climate, as each has a literature of its own.

J. T. WHITE.

Torquay, March, 1878.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

TORQUAY, 1680*—The Quay and Park Hill	Frontispiece	
TORRE ABBEY, 1662 (large sheet folded)	page	33
NORMAN GATEWAY AND TOWER, Torre Abbey	„	81
ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPTER HOUSE, Torre Abbey . .	„	83
ILESAM GRANGE	„	87
TORQUAY, 1780—The Harbour, Park Hill, and Beacon Terrace	„	101
FLEETE MILL	„	113
TORQUAY, 1700	„	115
TORWOOD MANOR HOUSE, 1820	„	117
TORQUAY, 1780—The Strand and Braddons Hill . . .	„	121
TORQUAY, from Stantaway Hill, 1830	„	139
TORQUAY, 1832	„	161
TORBAY ROAD after the Storm in 1859	„	240
TOR CHURCH, 1800	„	296
SAXON FONT, St. Mary-Church	„	377
NORMAN DOORWAY AND PULPIT, Paignton	„	381

* This date must be taken simply as an approximation. It is arrived at in this way. In the illustration at page 101, the pier starts from the quay half way down what is now the inner harbour, at a point where the Yacht Hotel now stands. This picture represents the quay as it was in 1780. To the south of the pier are two cottages, which at that date were a hundred years old. In the frontispiece not only is there no sign of these cottages, but even the hill-side appears in its natural form. Mr. R. Dymond, of Exeter, a well-known antiquary, therefore concludes that the date may fairly be assumed as early as 1680, or even earlier. The view is taken from a sketch copied by the late Mr. Gendall, of Exeter, from an old drawing.

INDEX.

	Page
Abbot Norton, calumniated	25
Abbot, lease of the Church House granted by the	26
Adventure, spirit of maritime	40
All Christians' meeting house	327
All Saints' Temporary Church	319
Anthony Ashley, Mr., looking after missing stores	71
„ his report on the same	74–5
Artesian well boring	290
Athenæum, the	342
Avenues, Torre Abbey	82
Baptists, the	326
Baths and wash-houses	182
Baths, the	202
Beacon Terrace, accident at	212
Berry Head, fortifications on	3
Bible Christians, the	326
British Workmen public-houses	348
Brixham, reputation of, saved	237
Boston Fields, origin of	177
Brewer, Lord William, gifts to the Abbey	9
Brewer's grant to the Abbey	15
Brictric, Queen Matilda revenged on	11
Buckland, Roger, a munificent benefaction	22
Building extension	152
Buried seamen along the shores of Torbay	175
Capitana, Spanish prize, taken	47
„ brought to Torbay	52
„ list of charges incurred during the time she was in Torbay	58
„ list of armaments and stores of	59
„ at Dartmouth	59
„ how she was taken described by Don Pedro in a letter to Philip	64
„ other claimants to the	67
Cane's Lane	115
Carew, Bampfylde Moore	121
Cary family, the	76
„ honours conferred on Mr. G.	76
„ his extensive possessions	77
Cary Green	172
Cary, Mr. R. S. S., attaining his majority	176
Case of Thomas Smith	105
Centenarian, a	103
Charities	334–7
Cholera visitations	132, 176
Christ Church, Ellacombe	317
Churchwardens' book, curious entries in the	128
Church rate	196
Clubs, Burial	354
Cricket Club	351
Customs, old, copy of court roll	102
„ free bench	102
Daccombe, Thomas-à-Becket, and William Tracey	13
Daddy Hole Plain, disputed right of way to	165
Dartmouth, port of	40
„ Torquay part of the port of	40–41
Dame Hutchings's bakery	126
Davis, John, the navigator	40
Denbury fair	41
Devonshire customs in Newfoundland	41
District rates	374
Drake, the fiery	47
Drowning of Messrs. Barrett, Clarke, and Vanneck	166
Duchy Dues contested	279
„ extinction of	280
Dwellings for the artizans	194
„ the Model Lodging-house	195
„ Mr. Palk's Ellacombe scheme for	195–6
Dye mill, in Fleete	100
East India Company's first ships sailing from Torbay	77
Efridiswelle	16
Ellacombe Green presented to the town by Sir L. Palk	270
Erith House Institution	333
Exeter, death of the Bishop of	281
Extra-Mural Cemetery Co.	183
Fair, abolishing the regatta	113
Famine in Ireland, aid from Torquay	168
Fiery Drake, the	47
Fire at Marler's	286
Fire, ship *Wallace* on	287
Fish trade of Brixham, importance of	228

Page

Fleete, the former name of Torquay 100
" mills 101, 113
Flood, a 114
Foresters 355
Freemasons 353
Friends, the meeting house of . . 327

Gas, introduction of 156
" Company, the 242
" lines on lighting the town with 385
" accident at the works . . 243
Gasworks, proposed purchase of . 285
Gilbert, Adrian, of Sandridge . . 40
Gilley, George, an account of . . 386
Goodrington, the hospital and cemetery, grant at 175
Governing bodies 389

Haldon, robbery on 119
Haliburton, death of Mr. A. F. . 288
" Christ Church endowed by 288
Harbour, summoning the harbour master for odours from 166
" six men drowned in . . 248
" laying foundation stone of new 270
" various schemes for a new 271
" mode of constructing the new 273
Hearder, G. E., presentation of testimonial to 280
Homœopathic Dispensary . . . 331

Ilsham Grange 87, 381
" granted to the Abbey . . 87
Imperial Hotel, opening . . . 247
Improvements, opposition to . 156-7
Improvement, a lost opportunity for 115
Independents, the 323
" progress of the 324
Invasion, threatened by Napoleon . 123
" contemplated transportation of the women and children to Dartmouth in consequence of . . 123

Kent's Cavern 361
Kent's Hole Close, lease of . . . 101
Kitson, Messrs., presentation of testimonial to 288
" W., presentation of portrait to 288

Latimer, Mr. T. 177
Lavers, Mr. W., munificent gift of 331
Law of settlement, iniquity of . . 133
Leases, curious old 110-4
" *ground* rents, and fines . 127

Page

Leases, establishing of 152
Lifeboat at Brixham 260
" at Torquay 283
Lincombe Drive, gift by Sir L. Palk 294
Local Government—
The Select Vestry 131
The Improvement Commissioners 154
The last days of the Commissioners 178
The Local Board of Health . . 176
First acts of the Local Board , 179
Londonderry family 37
" expenses at funeral of Earl of 108
" preparations for marriage of Countess of, to Earl of Donegal 109
Long Avenue road, attempted closing of 173
Lytton, death of Lord 287

Manor Court records, Torwood . 134
" " Torre Abbey 136
Manor Club. 351
Market, erection of the, 1820 . . 151
Marlborough, wreck of the . . . 161
Match, a stolen, at Torre Abbey . 119
Mechanics' Institute 339
Mendicity Society, the 338
Meteorology and climate . . . 356
Mill stream, the 161
Mine, iron, at Torre 107
Mining in Torquay 105
" litigation about 106
Mission House, the 338
Monasteries, corrupt state of . . 28
" suppression of 28
" revenues of 28
Monk, the headless 26
Monks, the conservators of the arts 25
" mode of life 379
Mortality, rates of 369

Napoleon I. in Torbay 141
" arrival of the *Bellerophon* 142
" the crowd of boats . . . 143
" admiration of the scenery 143
" visitors from London . . 143
" the beautiful Italian's visit to 145
" language of flowers . . . 146
" departure of, for Plymouth 147
" causes of return of, to Torbay 147
" his reception of the sentence of banishment by the allied powers . . . 148
" the parting scene on board the *Bellerophon* . . 149
" his transfer to the *Northumberland* 149
" his departure for St. Helena 150

	Page
Napoleon III. in Torquay	282
Natives, slave-born on the premises	32
Newfoundland colonised by West countrymen	41
„ Devonshire customs and names in	41
Newton Abbot Union, formation of	163
Odd Fellows	354
Orange, Prince of, invited to England	88
„ his passage down Channel	89
„ his landing at Brixham	90
„ landing of his troops	93
„ his march to Newton	93
„ his proclamation read	94
„ his march to Exeter	95
„ and the Brixham fisherman	94
„ memorial column of the landing of	96
Paignton Church	381
Paignton pudding, the	231-2
„ „ the fight over the	233
Palk, Sir L., returned for South Devon	268
„ returned for East Devon	269
„ presentation of portrait to	274
Palk, Sir Robert	37, 119
„ the, family	110
Parish apprentices	131
Parish records	130
„ missing	165
Parishes of Newton Abbot Union	376
Pauperism	371
Peace rejoicings in Torquay	150
Pengelly, Mr., presentation to	368
Phillipps, Mr. H. C. March, portrait presented to	250
„ gallant conduct of	251
Plymouth Brethren	327
Police, the force in 1836	156
„ ditto in 1871	167
„ adoption of County Constabulary Act	199
„ the Sessions-house	200
Poor-house, Torquay	63-65, 131
Poor rate	372
Population	370
Post office, old and new	251-2
Prejudices against newspaper reporting	177
Presentation of testimonial to Mr. G. E. Hearder	280
„ of portrait to Sir L. Palk	274
„ of testimonial to Messrs. Kitson	288
„ of portrait to H. C. March Phillipps	250
Primitive Methodists	327
Prince Albert and Mr. Woodley	185
„ death of	243
Prince Albert Victor, birth of	245
Prince Alfred in Torquay	211
Prince Arthur in Torquay	245
Prince of Wales in Torquay	198
Prince of Wales, marriage of, rejoicings	244
Prince of Wales conger fishing in Torbay	248
Princess of Wales, visit of, 1806	127
Public conveyances, hackney carriage stands	168
Public Gardens	192
Public debt	373
Public houses in the parish in 1780	121
Public lamps first erected	156
„ extension of, to Tor	156
Queen Victoria, rejoicings on accession of	162
„ landing of, at Torquay	153
„ visit to Babbacombe 168,	197
„ visit to Torquay and Dartmouth by.	185
„ address of the Local Board to	187
„ presents from Woodfield to	187
„ the reply of	188
Queen Emma, Dowager, of Sandwich Islands	249
Queen of Holland in Torquay	281-2
Railway, failure of atmospheric	226
„ opening of, to Torre	227
„ various proposals for extension of	228-9
„ the Dartmouth & Torbay	230
„ „ cutting first sod	231
„ opening of, to Torquay and Paignton	231
„ proposed extension of, to the harbour	233
„ amalgamation of Great Western and S. Devon	235
„ opening of, to Brixham	236
„ accident, a remarkable	289
Rateable value	371
Rational Sick and Burial Assoc.	354
Rating, strange method of	132
Reform, demonstration in favour of	267
„ the Act of 1832	267
„ contests in South Devon under the	268
Ridgeway family	384
Riot, bread	169
„ arrest and disposal of the prisoners	170-1
„ another bread.	276
Roads, old	157
„ formation of turnpike	158-9
„ Rev. T. Kitson's account of the Newton	159

Page

Roman causeway, discovery of . 174
" remains on Babbacombe Down 7
" remains on the Warberry . 7
" remains on Berry Head . 8
Roman Catholic Church of the Assumption 320
Roman Catholic schools 321
Roose, Jonathan, case of . . . 201
Rowing Clubs 352
Russian and French Princes, visitors 179, 191
Russian gun 201
Royal visits, William IV., Duke of Clarence 152
Royal visits, Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria 153
Royal Torquay Yacht Club. . . 352

Salem Chapel 328
Sand Lane, closing of . . . 172-3
Saxon traces in the neighbourhood 1
" font at St. Mary-Church parish church . . . 8, 377
Scoresby, Dr., the arctic navigator 305
Sewerage scheme, new . . 285, 387
Sheppard, Mr. A. B., death of . 288
Shipping and trade 295
Ship, the last built in Torquay. . 196
Sir Cloudesley Shovel's fleet . . 98
Spanish Armada 42
" preparations for defence against 43
" description of 44
" account of English fleet opposed to 45
" beacon fires, warning approach of 45
" bearing up Channel . . 46
" in confusion 46
" the *Capitana*, one of the, taken prize. 47
" lack of powder to carry on the fight 48
" the people praying against the 50
" ignominious end of the . 51
Spanish Barn, the 53
Spanish prisoners, landing of . . 53
" more troops asked for to guard the 53
" letters of Mr. Cary and Sir J. Gilbert to Privy Council respecting the 55
" condition of 60
" traditions relating to . . 62
Stark, Mr. Robert 328
Steeple chases at Plainmoor . . 193
Storm of October, 1859 . . . 238
" destruction of Torbay Road, &c. 239-41

Page

Storm, destruction caused by, at Meadfoot 241
Storm, great, in Torbay, Jan., 1866 254
Storm, heroism of Brixham inhabitants during the . . 255-9
" hospitality of Brixham during the 257
" the losses by the . . . 258
St. John's Church 307
St. Luke's Church 315
St. Michael and All Angels Church 315
St. Michael's Chapel, ruins of . . 85
Street improvements 263
" widening Fleet Street . . 263
" commencing the work of improvement 264
" the bill of expenses for Fleet Street 265
" widening Torwood Street 265
" " the Strand . . 265
" " Torre Square . 266
" " Cary Green . 266
Submerged forest, the 160

Teignmouth burnt by the French . 96
Temperance Society 348
Thanksgiving-day 286
Tite, Sir W., death of 288
Toll gates 167
Tor granted to Richard Briwere . 9
" in the Domesday book . . 11
" population of, at Domesday survey 12
" the men of, ordered to the relief of Exeter . . . 14
Tor Church 296
" memorial brasses and stones at 300
" parish registers in . . . 302
Tor churchyard, burials prohibited in 184
Tor Improvement Society . . . 341
Torbay, description of 1-2
" a naval rendezvous . . . 3
" a cruiser in, for protection of shipping 4
" breakwater proposed for 4, 259
" estimated cost 5
" parishes on the shore-line of 5
" part of Port of Dartmouth 6
" Vespasian in 8
" Leland's account of . . . 38
" forts in, contemplated by Henry VIII. 39
" beacon fires along . . . 45
" a French squadron in . . 179
" Hospital 330
" Horticultural Society . . 349
" and South Devon Club . 350
Torbay Road, construction of . . 157
" destruction of former . 159

	Page
Torbay Road, previous	159
Torbay and South Devon Club	350
Tormoham, sale of to Sir R. Palk	109
Torquay Directory	345
Torquay Times	347
Torquay and the Bishop's revival of synods	179
Torquay, Ordnance survey of	182
" County Court	182, 243
" Market, the	189
" " formation of Co.	190
Torquay and Torre, contention between	233
Torquay's gift to the Lancashire distress fund	243
Torquay Working Men's Improvement Society	341
" Working Men's Associa.	342
" Natural History Society	343
" Schools of Science and Art	345
" Errand Boys' Association	348
" Medical Society	349
Torre Abbey, Lord Brewer's grant	16
" arrival of the monks at	17
" the centre of religious life	18
" the order of monks at	18
" grant of lands at Dartmouth to	12
" a disputed gift to	20
" sends a chaplain to Tunstal, Dartmouth	19
" gifts of land to	21
" men of Tor distrained upon	22
" wealth of	
" work of the monks at	24
" surrender of, to the Commissioners	28
" list of the monks at the dissolution	29
" the list of abbots at	30
" annual revenue of	29
" manor of, granted to John Ridgeway by letters patent	31
" ruins of, description	79
" stone coffins and human remains found at	81
" account of modern residence	83
" discovery of crypt at	84
" searching for arms at landing of Prince of Orange.	93
" subterranean passage at	82
Torre Abbey Sands	117, 257-60
Torre and Torquay fairs abolished	269
Torre Key, temp. Henry VIII.	38
Torwood manor house	107, 117
" " domestic items at	109
Torwood Churches, St. Mark's and St. Matthias'	306
Town Hall, erection of	179
Trinity Church	318
Unions in Devon	375
Unitarians	327
Upton churchyard, burials prohibited in	184
Upton Church, description of	303
Varwell, the fisherman who carried the Prince of Orange on shore	90
" the zeal of, rewarded	94
" how, failed to become a lord	95
Victoria Club	351
Village schoolmaster, the	124
" as postman	
" the school and scholars	125
Volunteer, the, movement	214
" origin of, in Devonshire	215
" a company established in Torquay, 1853	215
" the sham fight on the Torre Abbey Meadows	217
" Lord Palmerston and the	219
" the general movement of 1859	221
" the Artillery and Engineer	222
" the dispute between the Exeter and Torquay	223
" dismissal of the Torquay Riflemen	223
" a Brixham corps disbanded	224
Watch-house, the	156
Water supply, the old	204
" the lords of the manor, works	205
" the Board applying for Parliamentary powers	206
" source of the supply	206
" storeage reservoir	208
" analysis of the, its extreme purity	208-9
" cleansing the mains	210
" extension of the works	211
" revenue	375
Wellswood a mile out of town	167
Wesleyanism, early established in Torquay	321
" growth of	322
Western Hospital for Consumption	331
Windmill, the	103
Winsor, Charlotte, case of	252
Wreck of *St. Peter the Great* at Hope	71
" Mr. Cary's account of	72
Wreck of H.M.S. *Amazon*, landing of the crew at Torquay	260

CHAPTER THE FIRST.

TORBAY.

Chorography of Torbay.—The Rocks.—The Shore-line.—Fortifications on Berry Head.—The Armed Cruizer in Torbay.—The Hospitals.—Naval Station.—Proposals for a Breakwater.—Projected Lighthouse on Berry Head.—The Parishes on the Torbay Littoral.—The Charter to the Black Prince conferring on him the Right to Levy Dues in "the Port of Dartmouth."



TORBAY is situated on the southern coast of Devonshire, nearly midway between the rivers Teign and Dart. It may be described as an inner recess of the Great West Bay, which extends from the Bill of Portland to the Start Point. In outline it is a rude semi-circle, broken by smaller bays and inlets, which alternate with bold limestone cliffs, headlands of red sandstone, beaches of white pebbles, and firm and extensive sands. From the shore a beautifully undulating country spreads upward until it meets the hills, which are clad with perennial verdure, forming a panorama of diversified beauty, which, on a memorable occasion, extorted the admiration of Napoleon, and at a later date called forth the praises of Macaulay.

The northern extremity of Torbay is known as Hope's Nose, or Ness; the southern, as Berry Head. From point to point, the distance is four miles; and the depth, from the centre of the line to Paignton, is three miles and a half; the coast line, from one headland to another, is about twelve miles in extent. The depth of water at the

entrance of the Bay ranges from six fathoms at Hope's Nose to twelve fathoms off Berry Head. The bottom, composed of fine sand and clay, forms a good holding ground for vessels at anchor. From the entrance to within half a mile of the shore the water gradually shoals to four fathoms and less, according to the nature of the shore, whether shelving or precipitous. To the west of the imaginary line drawn from headland to headland, the anchorage is known to mariners as the Inner Bay, and that to the east as the Outer Bay.

There are but few rocks in Torbay, and these are on the northern shore. About three hundred yards S.E. of Hope's Ness is the Flat Rock. Eight hundred yards beyond, with nearly the same compass bearing from the Ness, is the Ore Stone. In a direction W. by S. of this rock, distant fifteen hundred yards, and lying off the point beyond the Ilsham valley, is the islet known as the Thatcher. Off the western end of Meadfoot Beach is a singularly-shaped rock, which, when seen from a particular part of the beach, has very much the figure of the Sphinx; this rock is known as the East Shag; the West Shag is close under Daddy Hole Plain. The four rocks, West and East Shags, the Thatcher, and Ore Stone, lie nearly in a direct line. About three hundred yards to the south of the East Shag is a small but dangerous shoal, having only four feet of water on it at low tide; its name is Morris Rogue. Master mariners leaving Torquay for the east, generally keep the Ore Stone its own length open of the Thatcher, and thus clear the Morris Rogue and all other dangers. Close in front of the Baths are the Mill Stones; and off the Torre Abbey Sands there is a ledge of rocks, covered at half tide, known as the Harbrick. Both promontories, from Berry Head to Goodrington on one hand, and from Hope's Nose to the Torre Abbey Sands on the other, consist of the limestone and shale of the Devonian system; whilst the intermediate shores are composed of the red sandstone and conglomerates of the Triassic system.

From the earliest times Torbay has been famous as a naval rendezvous. Whenever a succession of westerly gales prevails for any length of time, even at this date, it is no uncommon sight to see more than a hundred merchantmen at anchor in Brixham Roads. It was also during war time a general rendezvous for shipping waiting for a man-of-war to convoy them out of the Channel.

During the last war between France and England, fortifications were raised on Berry Head for the protection of the shipping. The barracks and battery were erected on the site of the old Roman encampment, but being constructed for the most part of wood, the buildings soon fell into decay after the disarmament which followed the declaration of peace in 1815. That part, however, which of necessity was built of masonry still remains, and might be made available should foreign political complications render such a defence desirable. The restoration of the barracks and fort for the use of the militia as well as for the protection of the coast has, during late years, been the subject of much consideration by the Government. The open ground within the moat is sufficiently extensive for manœuvring a thousand men, and as the coasts of Devon and Dorset, from Portland to Plymouth, are unprotected, the anchorage would afford security to vessels navigating the Channel against any of the enemy's cruizers. The military hospital so long occupied for scholastic purposes by Mr. Lyte, is held on a tenure by which it may be resumed at a very brief notice.

At the present time there are reservoirs at Brixham always maintained in a state of efficiency, for watering the fleet: there is likewise a small depôt for naval stores. Every year the Government advertise for tenders for the supply of beef and vegetables to the fleet, although there may be no naval ships in Torbay. It is only occasionally, when the Channel or Reserve squadron anchor for a few days, that the local purveyor has the privilege of fulfilling his contract.

For several years in the first decade of the century, the

armed brig *Lord Cochrane* was stationed in Torbay to protect the trawlers and fishing boats from French cruizers. The usual practice was for the brig to sail with the fishing vessels every Monday morning, and return on the following Saturday. The brig carried fourteen six-pounders, and a crew of over a hundred men.

Besides the hospital at Brixham, a similar establishment was maintained at Goodrington, where a company of soldiers was stationed. In the burying-ground may still be seen the head-stones erected over the graves of the various officers and men who were there interred.

The value of Torbay as a naval station has been much diminished by the construction of more perfect harbours of refuge at Plymouth and Weymouth, and also by the use of steam, which has not only completely revolutionized the old style of naval architecture and vastly altered the order of battle, but has rendered the fleets of the present day less dependent upon the winds and currents.

So highly valued was Torbay as a roadstead, that long before the Plymouth breakwater was projected, the Government, at the urgent request of the Admiralty, seriously considered the subject of constructing a breakwater; for, although the advantages of Torbay as an anchorage has been recognised on all sides, it has one very serious drawback,—its shelter is useful only during westerly and south-westerly gales. Whenever the wind changes to the eastward, the vessels clear out and give it a wide berth. Sometimes a change of wind occurs so suddenly that a ship becomes embayed and wrecked. It was with this ever-present danger before him that Admiral Jervis, in one of his despatches, urged the Government to construct a breakwater, declaring his conviction that Torbay would one day become the grave of the Channel fleet. Mr. Whidby, an engineer of much repute, in 1799 prepared plans for a breakwater; but in all probability these were set aside more from motives of economy than the dictates of wise policy; for it must be confessed that the constant warfare in which the

nation was engaged had very much crippled its resources. Plymouth Sound, near which a naval dockyard had existed for more than a century, was subsequently deemed to be a more fitting site for a harbour of refuge; and in 1812 that grand national undertaking, the Plymouth breakwater, was commenced. When King William IV., as Duke of Clarence, held the office of Lord High Admiral, the subject was again revived, but Weymouth was selected in preference to Torbay, as being about equally distant from the two great naval arsenals of Portsmouth and Plymouth. The Weymouth breakwater was completed in 1872.

Mr. Whidby's estimate of the cost of the Torbay breakwater was £1,120,000. Thus, for the comparatively small outlay (considering the national importance of the work) of £40,000 per annum, the Government would have secured in twenty-eight years—the term over which it was intended to extend the work—a harbour of refuge capable of sheltering half-a-dozen fleets from every wind. After the disastrous storm in Torbay which occurred on the 11th of January, 1866, the Board of Trade was petitioned to construct a breakwater, and the reply they gave was that they had no money at their disposal for such a purpose.

In 1875, Sir L. Palk, M.P. for East Devon, submitted to Parliament a petition from shipowners and others, praying for a lighthouse to be erected on Berry Head. The petition was received but not entertained, the Start lighthouse being held to be sufficient for lighting this part of the coast.

Six parishes are situated on the shores of Torbay. The boundary line of St. Mary-Church commences at Watcombe and ends at the watercourse in the Ilsham Valley. Here the parish of Torquay begins, and extends to the stream of water which passes down the meadow into the sea on the western side of Torre Abbey. Cockington parish, beginning here, reaches on to the water course near the Torquay Gas works. From thence to Goodrington is the water-line of the parish of Paignton; and from Goodrington to beyond Elbury Cove is the parish of Churston Ferrers. The coast-

line from Elbury Cove to the south side of Berry Head is in the parish of Brixham.

Torbay formed a part of the Port of Dartmouth, which originally extended from the Erme to Hope's Nose, including the creek of Tor Key, or Fleete. On the 17th of March, in the eleventh year of the reign of Edward III., a Parliamentary charter was made in favour of the Black Prince, containing a grant of the "Water of Dartmouth;" and attaching to the property so granted was the right to levy dues within "the Port of Dartmouth." At a later period the boundaries of the port were limited to Salcombe at one extremity, and Hope's Nose on the other. In 1852 the boundaries of the ports were again modified: Teignmouth, which had hitherto been a creek of the Port of Exeter, was raised to the dignity of a port, and the creek of Torquay added to it; up to this date all vessels belonging to Torquay were registered as belonging to the Port of Dartmouth. The right to levy dues under the charter granted to the Black Prince is exercised at the present time. About ten years ago the landowners of the neighbourhood and the merchants of Torquay challenged this right to exact dues, but were defeated. The original charter, together with a translation, was tendered as evidence in a case heard before the Torquay magistrates early in 1877.*

* The original charter is preserved in the office of the Duchy of Cornwall, Buckingham Gate, London.

CHAPTER THE SECOND.

TOR.

From the Conquest to the Thirteenth Century.—Roman and Saxon Traces.—The Conqueror in Devon.—Grant of Tor to William Briwere.—His vast Possessions.—Grant to the Abbey.—The successive Owners of the Manor.—Tor in the Domesday Book.—Daccombe and Thomas-à-Beckett.—The Men of Tor and Exeter.

TORQUAY is said to have no history, in the true sense of the word, its existence only dating back a hundred and twenty years; but as the village of Tor, of which it is the outgrowth, it may certainly lay claim to some little pretension to antiquity.

The records of the Roman and Saxon periods are silent respecting this district; but it was undoubtedly held to be an important station, inasmuch as the Roman legions have left indisputable evidence of their occupation. Up to within recent years lines of circumvallation were easily traced on the Down between Anstis Cove and Babbacombe, extending to Warberry Hill. Mr. Mac Enery discovered the traces of elliptic towers at the angles of the enclosure; and there were distinctly discernible the vestiges of three walls or embankments extending from the coast to the Babbacombe Road. This ancient fortification, he says, covered the entire Down between Babbacombe and Anstis Cove. "The General's or Consul's quarter would seem to have been placed on the inside of the rampart or breastwork," "from which the grand street

directly emanates, with parallel lines and intersecting alleys, produced by the division of the area into squares. The marks of the wheels are distinctly visible on the entire line of the streets."*

On the opposite promontory of Berry Head may be seen the remains of a fortified camp; there is a very extensive camp on Milber Down; and on the hills above Berry Pomeroy there are remains of a Roman station.

It is said that Arviragus, King of the Britons, refusing tribute to the Romans, Claudius took measures to enforce it by sending Vespasian, who landed in Torbay, and marched on Exeter, which he besieged. The chronicle of the Cathedral of Exeter contains an entry relating to this presumed siege, in the following words:—*Anno Domini 49, Vespasianus cum Romano exercitu civitatem nunc vocatam Exeter octo diebus obsedit sed minime prævaluit Arvirago Rege Civibus auxilium præstante.*" †

Of the Saxon era the traces are more of a philological than an archæological kind. Wherever the Saxons prevailed they altered and changed the names of places and towns, "accounting it a great renown, as also a perpetual memorial of their chivalry, to give new names, either of their own devises or of their native countries." Thus, in the immediate neighbourhood, there are to be met with the words Bahecumb (Babbacombe), Ness, Anstis, Barton, Shephay, Ilesam, Aller, Karswell, Fleete, and others, all of Saxon origin. It is believed that the church which stood on the site of the Abbey of Tor was a Saxon structure. ‡

* Mac Enery's Cavern Researches, p. 78. Ed. 1859. Edited by Mr. E. Vivian. *Transactions Devonshire Association*, vol. VI., p. 65, Paper by Mr. W. Pengelly.

† At the meeting of the British Archæological Association held at Exeter in 1868, Mr. Gidley read a paper on "Royal Visits to Exeter," in which was given an account of the siege of Exeter by Vespasian, as narrated by Hoker, who derived his account from Geoffrey of Monmouth. The story, however, is not generally received.

‡ The Parish Church of St. Mary-Church is the third on the present site; the first was Saxon, and is believed to have been the earliest planted in the neighbourhood; the fine old Saxon font is still in use.

With the Norman Conquest a little more light is gained respecting Tor. Devonshire stood out boldly against the victorious Norman invader; and it was not until Exeter had been besieged and reduced to obedience by William in person, that the West reluctantly accepted the new order of things. The Conqueror was exceedingly liberal in the disposition among his followers of the lands and goods of the vanquished Saxons. The rich and fertile lands of Tor were granted to one of his most powerful and trusty adherents, Richard de Briwere, de Brewera, or de Brewere. In accordance with the usages of the time, the name of its possessor was conferred on the village, which thus became known as Tor Brewer.

William Lord Brewer, Baron of Torbay, is supposed to have been born at Tor. There seems, however, a doubt whether he was a lineal descendant of Richard, the immediate follower of the Conqueror. In the cartulary given in Oliver's *Monasticon Exoniensis*, the two names are not only differently spelt (which in itself might easily be accounted for), but it is implied that Briwere was a purchaser from De Bruerà. But seeing that not more than a hundred years had elapsed from the gift by the Conqueror to the concession of land by William Brewer for the purposes of a monastery, the probability is that the Briweres and Brewers were one and the same family. However that may be, William Brewer was a man of remarkable ability. During the reign of four monarchs, Henry II., Richard I., King John, and Henry III., he was a great favourite, "and enjoyed honours, public employments, and civil and military places of trust." William Lord Brewer was one of the six lords appointed to serve as Counsellors to the Regents who governed the kingdom during Richard's visit to the Holy Land, 1190,* and when the king was imprisoned by the Duke of Austria, on his return journey, William Brewer became one of his hostages. On another occasion Brewer was appointed to settle a difference between the Archbishop and

* Rapin's Hist. Eng. Ed. 1727. Vol. III., p. 107.

the Canons of York. Prince says that King John "gave him license to enclose his woods at Toar (Tor), Cadeleigh, Rudden, and Ailesbere, in Devon, and Burghwalter (now Bridgwater), with free liberty to hunt the hare, fox, cat, and wolf,* throughout Devonshire." To him Henry III. gave the wardship of Reginald de Mohun, Lord of Dunster, who subsequently married Alicia, the fifth and youngest daughter of his guardian, by whom he became possessed of "the manors of Thor, Waggeborough (Wolborough), Kadele, Hulberton, Acford, Braworthy, and Axminster," in Devon, and other property in Somerset. Lord Brewer was not only a valued servant of the State, but he was a liberal patron of the Church. As his ancestor had freely received of the Conqueror, so he almost as freely gave. He founded Torre Abbey in 1196, likewise the Abbey of Dunkeswell, and endowed a Priory of Benedictine monks at Polsloe (Exeter). The Augustine Hospital of St. John at Bridgwater, and the Augustine Priory of Motesfont in Hampshire, were also founded by the same benefactor.

When such part of the Manor of Tor Brewer which was not included in the grant to the Abbey passed, by marriage, into the family of Mohun, the name was changed to Tor Mohun, which, of late years has been transmuted into Tormoham. Lord Mohun, at his death, left two sons, Reginald and William. The latter exchanged with his brother the Manors of "Tor, Maryngelegh, Endecombe als Codecombe in Somerset," for the Manor of Axminster, where he proposed to establish a colony of Cistercians. This exchange received the sanction of Pope Innocent IV. Camden states that the Court House of Lord William Brewer was situated to the eastward of the present parish Church, "*curia sua de Thorre*," and, with the permission of Abbot Simon, a private chapel was erected in connection with the mansion. All remains of these buildings have long since disappeared; but Mr. O. Blewitt, who wrote that excellent work, *The*

* According to this it would appear that the wolf existed in Devonshire *long* after its alleged extermination by Edgar in 961–5.

Panorama of Torquay, in 1832, says,—"A few traces of these buildings and parts of the walls are still remaining on the east side of Tor Church."

The history of Torquay is intimately associated with that of the Abbey; but unfortunately the registers which would illustrate the period from the time of the foundation of the monastery to its dissolution are unattainable. What particulars have been procured from other sources, together with an account of the Abbey, will be given in another chapter.

The earliest authoritative written evidence is that furnished by the Domesday Book. A copy of this record, so far as it relates to Devonshire, is deposited in the archives of Exeter Cathedral. The order for the survey was given in 1080, and the work was completed in 1086. It sets forth the extent and value of every man's land, what he is called upon to pay under the last of the Saxon Kings (Edward), and the amount of tax demanded of him under this new assessment. In this book there are two entries, relating evidently to two different places, under the word Torre. Antiquaries are in doubt as to which of these has reference to this parish, because there are other Torres in the neighbourhood, for instance, Tor Brian and Tor Newton—to either of which they may apply. The following are translations of the entries in question:—

LANDS OF THE KING'S THANES, OR NOBLES.

"Godwa holds Torre, which Brictric* held in the time of King Edward, and pays geld" (tax) "thirty pence for three hides of land" (each hide being from eighty to ninety acres), "of which twelve carucates" (that is as much land as can be tilled with twelve ploughs) "are in demesne"

* Brictric, a distinguished Saxon noble, appears to have possessed great wealth and influence. When despatched on a mission to Baldwin, Earl of Flanders, he attracted the attention of the Earl's daughter, Matilda, who straightway made overtures to him with a view to matrimony. The honour, however, was declined. Disappointed love was converted into revenge, and when Matilda became the wife of the Conqueror she gratified it by procuring a grant of eighteen of the manors in Devonshire, held by Brictric, who was conveyed to Winchester, and died in prison.

(in his own possession) "besides four" (other) "carucates; and there are four servi" (slaves), "sixteen villeins, or tenant farmers" (tenants who held cottages and lands, for which they were charged with certain stated servile offices, and were conveyed as an estate or appurtenances of the manor to which they belonged),* "and twelve bordarii" (a sort of meaner farmer who had a bord or cottage allowed them, for which they supplied the lord with poultry and eggs) "with eight carucates. There are one hundred acres of wood, six acres of meadow, and twenty acres of pasture, valued at one hundred shillings."

LANDS OF THE KING'S SERVANTS.

"The same William [Hostirius] holds Torre, Alric held in the time of King Edward, and yields geld for two hides of land, of which seven carucates are in demesne. There are four servi, sixteen villeins, and twelve bordarii, with four carucates. There are twenty-four acres of meadow, and two hundred acres of pasture, and were formerly valued at sixty shillings."

Now, as William Hostirius was the possessor of Ilesam at the time of the survey, it may be fairly presumed that he was also the owner of the manor of Tor, being spoken of as "the same William," and the entry following that of Ilesam, shows that they were contiguous; accordingly the last quoted paragraph would refer to this parish. Adopting the method of computation followed by the Rev. Preb. Barnes, in estimating the population of St. Mary-Church at the time of the Domesday survey,† the number of inhabitants, including the fishermen, who are mentioned as "numerous," in the Hundred of Carswell (for the Hundred at that time took its name from Kingskerswell), was far above one hundred and fifty.

Two great events occurred in English history during the time that William de Brewer lived at the Court House,

* Bailey.

† Rev. Preb Barnes's History of St. M.ry-Church.

near Tor Church, and no doubt, from the statesmanlike qualities he had displayed, his advice was sought in both instances; certainly his personal services were demanded in one of them. The first was the quarrel between Thomas-à-Beckett and Henry II.; the other the unhappy contention between King John and the Barons. Without entering into the disputes between the monarch and the prelate, it will suffice to say that, after a meeting in which Henry received much provocation, "and stung by the insolence of a subject whom he had raised from the dust," he could not help uttering aloud the words,—"I am very unhappy that among the great numbers I maintain there is not a man that dares undertake to revenge the affronts I perpetually receive from the hands of a wretched priest."* The words were not unheeded. Four of the barons of the Royal bedchamber, Richard Fitz-Urse, William Tracey, Richard Britton, and Hugh Morvill, resolved to despatch the Archbishop. Watching their opportunity, they assassinated à-Beckett before the altar of Canterbury Cathedral. This was in 1171. Among the MSS. belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury is one containing an expiatory offering made by William de Tracey. It is an original instrument, fortified by the seal of the donor, by which is conveyed to the Convent of Christ Church, Canterbury, "the Manor of Doccombe," in the adjoining parish, "*pro amore Dei, et salute anime mee et predecessorum meorum, et amore beati Thome Archiepiscopi, et mortires memorie venerande.*"†

The general discontent arising from the ill-government of King John was greatly increased when the Pope laid the whole kingdom under a sentence of excommunication. By this terrible edict divine service in the churches was forbidden; no sacrament but that of baptism was administered; the dead were refused Christian burial, and had to be interred without any funeral ceremony, many bodies being cast into the ditches. Marriage was celebrated in the

* Rapin's Hist. Eng., vol. III., p. 42, ed. 1727.

† Fifth Report Historical Manuscript Commissioners, p. 462.

highways, and the people were absolved from allegiance to the Sovereign. Through all these troubles the city of Exeter remained loyal to the King, and refused to admit the revolted barons. In this momentous state of things, the King seems to have remembered his old and faithful baron in Devonshire, the lord of Tor; for in 1216 he sent a commission to Robert de Courtenay, who was at that time Viscount of Devon and Governor of Exeter Castle, to admit into the city William Brewere and all his forces, if he thought his own, with that of the citizens, were not sufficient for its defence.

CHAPTER THE THIRD.

TOR AND TOR ABBEY.

Thirteenth to Sixteenth Century.—Lord William Brewer's Grant to the Abbey.—The Boundaries of the Land.—Grant of the Parish Church and Shiphay Collaton.—Founding of Torre Abbey.—Arrival of the Monks.—The Abbey the Centre of Religious Life.—The Gift of Tunistal.—A Chaplain sent to Dartmouth.—The Heir of the Donor disputes the Gift.—A Compromise.—More Gifts to the Abbey.—The Abbey and the Totnes Guild.—The Monks Distrained upon for Arrears.—Riches of the Abbey.—Noble Work of the Monks.—Monasteries the Repositories of Learning and the Arts.—An Abbot Maligned.—The Headless Ghost in the Avenues.—Grants made to the Abbey.—The great Reputation of the Inmates.—Exactions.—The Suppression of the Monasteries.—List of the Abbots.—Revenues.—List of the Ejected Monks and the Pensions awarded them.—The subsequent Possessors of the Abbey.—The Crown Grant to the Ridgeways.



ORD William Brewer founded Torre Abbey with the pious motive that the canons should "pray for the souls of the Kings of England, his father's, his own, and all his predecessors and successors." He made a grant of St. Saviour's Church at Tor, and the ground surrounding it, "together with sufficient pasture for one hundred sheep, which Richard, the parson of Torre, possessed." The grant states that the Abbey "shall be built on the very place where St. Saviour's was founded, to wit, the culture or tillage or improved ground called Rowedon, in the Manor of Torre, by the limits undermentioned, to wit: By the road which comes from Cockington home to the village of Torre, and so before the gate of Richard, the then parson of Torre,

by the way going down to the sea, and so from the sea to the calcetum causeway, and so from the causeway to the said road coming from Cockington, by a certain place of a spring of water called Efridiswelle,* and whatever is within the aforesaid limits, and such liberty of fishing and drawing the net in the water or sea of Torre as I have or should have, or my heirs should have. I have given also and granted the church of Torre entirely with whatever belongs to it, and also the pasture of one hundred sheep in the same manner as the parson aforesaid had it, or should have had it. I give and grant a certain part of my village of Coleton† which lies beneath these bounds, to wit, the road leading from Torre by wyngate‡ towards the village of Coleton as far as another road coming from the village of Torre, and so going up by the same way home to the territory of Karswell, with the hill which is called Hyngesdon, and then returning by Boscum, or the wood of Cockington, and by the bounds which divide Cockington and Coleton by the aforesaid village, which comes by the wyngate of the aforesaid village of Torre. And I also grant to the same canons leave to make a pond and one fish pond in the part of the north-wille of Torre, towards constructing an aqueduct to the offices and other conveniences of the monastery as shall be thought most proper."§ Lord William Brewer also granted "all that field or meadow which comes down before the Abbey of Torre lying on the western part of the causeway to the sea, between the causeway and Cockington meadow." This grant included *pontagio* (bridge tolls), *passagio* (passing tolls), *lastagio* (dues on imported or exported goods), and *stallagio* (dues for sites of tolls).

* This well dried up about 1860, in consequence of the extension of buildings around; it was situated opposite the lytch gate of Tor Church. The Rev. J. James caused a drinking fountain to be erected in its place.

† Shiphay Collaton. ‡ Behind the house known as Pilmuir.

§ These extracts are derived from an old MS. in the possession of Messrs. Kitson.

The grant was confirmed by King John,* and by the widow Beatrice, relict of William Brewer, afterwards by William Brewer the son, and subsequently by Reginald Mohun. The Abbey charter was further confirmed by Edward I., in 1303 and 1307.

The site of Torre Abbey was judiciously selected, being situated at the lower end of a valley opening towards the sea; and down the vale ran a copious stream of water. The exact date of the commencement of the building cannot be ascertained; but from the dimensions of the edifice, and the magnificence of the architecture, its construction must have occupied several years. In consequence, probably, of the frequent ravages of northern and other sea rovers, the walls and towers were crenellated and machiolated, and the building was protected by a moat.† A rude quay, used by the fishermen, existed in the creek long before the arrival of the monks; and here it was that the Beer, Purbeck, and Portland stones, which enter largely into the structure of the Abbey, were landed. The monks, who in those days were as skilful in the arts as they were devoted to their religion, improved upon the fishermen's landing-place, secured the exclusive right to the fishery of Torbay,‡ and levied tollage on the fishermen accordingly.

This Norbertine monastery, dedicated to the honour of the Holy Saviour, the Holy Trinity, and Blessed Virgin, was taken possession of by Adam, the first Abbot, with six monks, on the 25th of March, 1196, and was no doubt an event commemorated by the meeting together of the Bishop and the Abbots of other religious houses in this part of the country, as we know was the case some years later when the Abbey of Buckfastleigh was founded.§

Adam, who was a canon of Welbeck House, in Nottinghamshire, seems to have entered upon the Abbacy with no intention of continuing long in it; his energies were

* King John granted the canons immunities from scutage, geld, and toll.

† The last remaining portion of this moat was filled up in 1876.

‡ Dugdale. § For the mode of daily life see the Appendix.

evidently devoted to organizing and bringing the infant establishment into working order; for, after a brief residence of three-and-a-half years, he retired to Newhus, in Lincolnshire, the first house of the Order planted in England.*

The monastery was the centre of religious life in this district. By their austerities and earnest preaching, the monks stirred up the parish priests to greater exertion; and they sent out members of their Order to preach at Hennock, Wolborough, Tunstall (Dartmouth), Ilsam, and St. Mary-Church. So great was the reputed sanctity of the pious men of Tor, that gifts flowed in from all sides. Nobly endowed as the Abbey was by the founder, it grew more wealthy by the gifts and bequests of the rich, until at length it was unquestionably the best endowed of all the monasteries of this Order in England. Within eight years of the founding of the Abbey, lands at Dartmouth came into its possession. Among the Corporation Deeds of Dartmouth is one to the following effect:—"To all sons of Holy Mother Church, William Fitz-Stephen, greeting. Know all of you that I, for the sake of God, and for pious considerations, have given and granted to God and the Church of the Holy Trinity of Torre, and the canons there serving God, the Church of Tunistal, with all its appurtenances, for the health of my soul, and of Isabel my wife, and my heirs,

* The Premonstratenses were a religious order of regular canons instituted by St. Norbert, and thence called Norbertines. The first monastery of this order was built by Norbert in the Isle of France, nine miles to the west of Laon, and by him called Premonstre, Premonstratenses, whence the order itself was denominated. As to the occasion of this name being given, the writers of the order are divided. The order was approved by Honorius II. in 1126, and again by several succeeding Popes. At first the abstinence from meats was rigidly observed; in 1245 Innocent IV. complained of its being neglected to a general Chapter; in 1288 their General, William, procured leave of Pope Nicholas IV. to eat meat on journeys. In 1460 Pius II. granted them a general permission to eat meat, except from Septuagesima to Easter. The religious of this order were clothed in white, with a scapulary before the cassock. Out of doors they wore a white cloak and white hat; within, a little camail, and at church a surplice. In the first monasteries built by Norbert, there was one for men and another for women, only separated by a wall. In 1137, by a decree of a general chapter, this practice was prohibited, and the women were removed to establishments at a greater distance from those occupied by the men.

and all our ancestors and successors, and for the soul of William Berchelee, in free, pure, and perpetual alms. And that this my gift may remain ratified and unshaken, I have confirmed it with setting thereto my seal. Witness, Sir G. de Lucy, Bishop of Winchester, William Briwere, Richard Heriet, Thomas de Ussebarne, Henry de Lapumei, John de Torintone, Matthew Fitz-Herbert, Richard Fleming, Wido de Aubemarle, William Bavian, Martin the Chaplain, Ralph de Brai, Ralph de More, Reginald de Aubemarle," and many others. This deed must have been executed before 1204, because Godfrey de Lucy, Bishop of Winchester, died in that year. William Briwere, the founder of Torre Abbey, died before 1226, and Richard Heriet died before April 6th, 1208.*

It may here be incidentally mentioned that the Church referred to above was the Mother Church of St. Clement, at Tounstall, or Tunstal, situated about a mile inland, on the summit of a high hill. St. Saviour's, the present Church of Dartmouth, was built as a chapel-of-ease to Tunstall in 1374.

William Brewer, supposed to be a cousin of the founder of Torre Abbey, and who was Bishop of Exeter from 1224 to 1244, confirms this gift in a deed which, after setting forth the particulars, goes on to say, "We, for the love of God, with the consent of our Chapter of Exeter, have contributed and have granted the Church of Tunestalle, which is vacant, and of right belonging to the gift of the religious men, the Abbot and Convent of Torre, unto the same Abbot and Convent for ever, to their own use to possess the same, with all things unto the same pertaining; so, however, that the same Church be not in future defrauded of divine ministrations, but that a secular chaplain continually reside there, honest and fitting therefor, who shall in the Church aforesaid usefully and honestly demean himself; and that there be saved also in all things the episcopal dignity and that of the Chapter of Exeter."

* Fifth Report Historical Manuscript Commissioners, p. 600.

This clearly points to some irregularity in the ordinary conduct of the ministrations of the Church, or to some interruption or interference therewith. It further appears that what William Fitz-Stephen had so generously given to the religious men of Torre was protested against by his successor who did not quite concur in this gift of Church and lands to the monks, notwithstanding that it was done for the benefit of his ancestors and successors. There was a great litigation between the claimant and the possessors of the estate, but as the Church held the lands, the claimant, as a natural consequence, went to the wall. For example, there is a parchment deed in Latin * which purports to be the record of a covenant made in the Court of the Lord King, in a suit moved between Gilbert, son of Richard Fitz-Stephen, claiming the advowson of the Church at Tunstalle against the Abbot and Monastery of Torre, whereby he quit-claimed all right to the same for 20 marks sterling, "In witness whereof the said Gilbert has set his seal hereto." The witnesses to this document are Robert le Deneys, John de Asseleghe, Knight, Peter Heym, Philip Rurde, William de Aleburn, and others. It bears date "Tuesday before the feast of the Epiphany A.D. 1294, in the year of the reign of King Edward, the 23rd."

According to another deed, John Raleghe, mariner, of Dartmouth, granted to Robert Pampallone a tenement in Monkenestrete, within the Manor of Northtone, near Hardenasse, to render yearly to the Abbot and Convent of Torre twelve pence and the services due for the same. This is dated the eleventh year of Richard II. It is presumed that the mariner here referred to was not improbably a member of the family from which Sir Walter Raleigh sprang.

In a document bearing date the day of St. Stephen, in the 16th year of King Henry, Thomas Wambe, chaplain, granted to the Abbot of Torre a messuage and garden at

* Fifth Report Historical Manuscript Commissioners.

Tunstalle, "which is situate between the Church of St. Clement and the house of the parson of the same vill."

There is also a very quaint parchment deed, according to which the Prior of St. Nicholas at Exeter, Collector of the tenth (imposed as a subsidy for the Roman Catholic Church) acknowledges the receipt of sums respectively from the Churches of Welleburgh, Torrebrwere, Tonstalle, Bradeworth, Hanoke, the pension from the Prior of Tottoneys, the prebend of the Abbot of Torre, of Asse Clyft, the temporalities of the Abbot. This is dated the 13th Dec., 1303, and is described as being the first term of the third year of the said payment.

Under date the 35th year of Henry VI., John More, Thomas Gylle, John Maryfeld, John Cade, and Richard Rake, granted to Richard Cade, Abbot of Torre, all the messuages which they had in Tounestalle of the gift of John Jeornelle, and which they had in Torre Mohun, of gift of Richard Crocker and Margery his wife, and of Richard Wolston.

In the collection of manuscripts in the possession of Mr. B. W. Prideaux, of Dartmouth, in a deed by which John Paytefyn grants to Alice, daughter of Richard Stokehaye, his curtilage in Hardinasse, to hold of the Lord Abbot and Convent of Torre, the said Alice paying to them one penny of silver, in equal portions, at the four principal terms of the year. This bears date the 38th year of Edward III.*

The Corporation of Totnes have also a great number of documents of an interesting character, among which are some referring to Torre. There is, for instance, a roll, in Latin, giving an account of the Merchants' Guild at Totnes, commencing in A.D. 1260, and extending far into the reign of Edward I. On one side of this roll is a list of the members of the fraternity, about two hundred in number. The first name on the list is that of the Abbot of Torre, who "pays 2s. yearly to the Seneschal of the

* Fifth Report Historical Manuscript Commissioners, p. 424.

Guild for all tallages;" and next in order is the Abbot of Buffesteie (Buckfastleigh). One of the privileges of the guild was that the members were able to make all their purchases in like manner with the burgesses.*

Matters, however, did not always go on smoothly between the men of Torre and the Guild of Totnes, for in 1313 "it was adjudged by the whole Court [of the Guild] that the men of the Abbot of Torre should be distrained because that the said Abbot had not made satisfaction for arrears."

Roger of Buckland was a munificent benefactor; he gave to the Abbey the greater part of his inheritance, and those gifts were confirmed and added to by his successors, one of whom, William, was buried in the conventual church. In the *Tor Abbey Cartulary* are mentioned various deeds and instruments, and amongst them the following: a deed of Roger de Bokelonde, conveying the wood of Bokelond, together with the glebe. By a second document Roger surrenders "all his wood with its belongings." There is a third deed, evidently relating to the same transaction; also one of Thomas Cole, concerning the wood of Bokelond. William de Baldrynton gave to the Abbey half a furlong of land in South Brook; and John Gobat, one "claw" of land in Southbrook, within the Manor of Bokelond. William, son and heir of Roger de Bokelond, confirms these concessions by deed. There is also the ratification of Gerald de Spineto, formerly Lord of Stoke-in-Tynhed, of all lands and tenements, houses, gardens, &c., in Bokelond-in-la-more. In the collection of Trinity College, Dublin, is a manuscript said to be "the Chartulary of the Monastery of Thorre, in Devonshire." It is on vellum, extending over 170 leaves, and its records extend from the time of King John to 1409, which latter is believed to be the latest express date in the collection; it contains a notice of the interments of William Briwere the younger, who died in 1232, and of William de Bokelond, and it

* Third Report Historical Manuscript Commissioners, p. 342.

expressly declares that they were buried in the conventual church. There is also the notice of "a grant by William de Bokelond of all his land of Redeclive, in the Manor of Buckland, by metes and bounds, with common of pasture over the said Manor, to the Abbot, &c., of Thorr." There is likewise a confirmation from Edward de Spineto to the Abbot of Thorre, of one furlong of land in Scobetore, "which William de Bokelond had given to the said Abbot with his body," with a further grant of all reliefs, wardships, and other endowments occurring on the said lands.*

These are but small items among the gifts by which the Abbey became enriched. Grants of extensive manors were added to the Monastery, whose lord, in the extent of his territory, vied with some of the wealthiest nobles of the land. Among the property belonging to the Abbey may be reckoned the manors and churches of Torre and Woolborough; the lands of Grindle in Woodbury, the fishery of Torbay, the tithes of St. Mary-Church, the grange and lands of Shiphay, the churches of Bradworthy, Pancraswicke, and North Shillingford. The manor of Ilsam was given to the Abbey, as was also Collaton, in the parish of Paignton. Kingswear was granted by Waldo de Vasey, and the prebend of Ash Clyst, attached to St. Mary's Chapel within the Castle of Exeter, was granted in July, 1242, *in perpetuam* to Torre Abbey; and, in addition, the monks possessed the rights of common on Dartmoor. The Abbot also held the right of presentation to several churches in the neighbourhood, including Cockington, Tor, Hennock, Buckland Brewer, and Blackawton. All that could contribute to the magnificence of the church was supplied. Bishop Grandisson speaks of its being furnished with cloth of gold, with copes, and the richest of ecclesiastical ornaments, as well for the altar as the attire of the chief rulers of the house. †

And so the Monastery grew apace, accumulating lands

* Worthy's "Ashburton and its Neighbourhood," pp. 49–51; ed. 1875.

† Grandisson's Register, fol. 56, vol. 1.

and money on all sides. It became the centre of a population which was almost wholly dependent upon it for employment; the poor were entirely maintained by its charity; and within its walls the distressed and friendless found an asylum. It may, perhaps, not be out of place to state here, that in the pre-reformation days the clergy were divided into two great divisions—the secular clergy, or parish priests, living as they now do among their own people, under their ecclesiastical superiors, the archdeacons and bishops; and the clergy of the various religious orders who lived in abbeys and monasteries. With the latter were invariably associated a certain number of lay brethren. The labours which devolved upon the monks were many and arduous. To the Abbey resorted the children of the gentry, the merchants, and the richer farmers, to be educated; for although many of the parish priests kept schools, the higher class education was entirely in the hands of the monks. Services were maintained at Kingswear, Tunstall, St. Clement, Tor, Abbotskerswell, Hennock, Newton, and other places, to which some of the brotherhood were sent out. They reclaimed lands from bogs, commons, and warrens, and won well-earned crops from an unwilling soil; they planted mills on the brooks, and ground breadstuffs for themselves and dependents; they steadily cultivated the production of wool, and paved the way for the ultimate introduction of the manufacture of stuffs, for which the West of England is so well known; they introduced and developed the cultivation of many of our fruits and esculents; whilst their skill in the construction of granaries and farm buildings is attested by the durability of the walls that remain. The first orchards in Devon were planted by the Cistercians. In addition, these religious houses were a refuge for learned men, and often for those who were broken down by disease, or for children whom hapless fate had thrown upon the world as orphans. It has been too often the fashion to condemn monasticism in terms of unmitigated reproach; but, perhaps, those

who indulge in such censure are not mindful of what we owe to the monks. They were the men who fed "the undying lamp of truth," which the "flapping of a conqueror's banner would blow out for ever." When knowledge was shut up in sheepskin scrolls, these patient men employed themselves in copying the Classics, the Gospels, the dissertations of the Fathers, the accounts of travellers, and the records of their own orders. A whole lifetime has thus been devoted to the production of a single work. Many of these are, for chasteness of design, beauty of execution, and brilliancy of colour, precious works of art; and no inconsiderable number of these illuminated missals are now of priceless worth. "In an age when books were few, so few, so precious, that they were chained to their oaken shelves with iron chains, like galley slaves to their benches, these men with their laborious hands copied upon parchment all the lore and wisdom of the past and transmitted them to us. Perhaps it is not too much to say that, but for these monks, not one line of the classics would have reached our day. Surely, then, we can pardon something to those superstitious ages, perhaps even the mysticism of the scholastic philosophy, since, after all, we can find no harm in it, only the mistaking of the possible for the real, and the high aspirings of the human mind after a long-sought and unknown somewhat."*

It appears, however, that a great scandal occurred during the Abbacy of William Norton, who was confirmed Abbot on the 27th of July, 1382. This prelate is said to have been a very amiable man, and led an irreproachable life. But even Abbots are not proof against the shafts of calumny. It was widely circulated that the Abbot had arrogated to himself the privilege of the Lord of the Manor to inflict capital punishment, by having decapitated one of the Canons, named Simon Hastings. A great outcry was made about it, and the poor Abbot was sorely troubled. As he could not brook the dreadful accusation, he prayed

* Longfellow's "Hyperion."

Bishop Brantyngham to cause an investigation to be made. The enquiry was held on the 14th of August, 1390, and as Simon Hastings was produced in the flesh, the excellent Bishop had no difficulty in pronouncing the accusation to be "a falsehood of the blackest dye." The Bishop congratulated the good Abbot, bore testimony to his blameless life, and concluded by anathematizing the party or parties who had so much defamed him. But, however soothing this decision may have been to the Abbot or gratifying to the Bishop, it appears that there were many incredulous folks in the parish, according to whose belief the weird spirit of Simon Hastings haunted the neighbourhood of the Abbey; and to this day tradition asserts that the ghost of the headless Master Simon Hastings may occasionally be seen, mounted on a horse, madly galloping along the Avenues. The time generally selected for these inordinate equestrian exercises is said to be at midnight in the month of November, and should there be a heavy gale of wind from the south-west (a by no means improbable contingency at that time of the year) the clatter of the horse's hoofs is distinctly heard!

During the time that Norton was at the head of the Abbey, on July 24th, 1405, Tunstall Vicarage was taxed by Bishop Stafford, and the deed was signed with the Chapter seal of Torre three days afterwards.

Thomas Dyare, or Dyer, the fifteenth Abbot, granted several leases from 1502 to 1523: among these is one by which he grants land for the Church house, afterwards used as the parish Workhouse, and since occupied as tenements, being No. 8 Church Street, Torre. The deed sets forth:— "Thomas Dyare, Abbot of our Saviour's Church at Torre, grants to Thomas Worcester, John Bartlett, sen., John Bartlett, jun., Roger Bartlett, jun., John Waye, Thomas Waye, Thomas Colcott, William Colcott, Thos. Stremer, and Thos. Bishop, a parcel of land in Torre-Mohun, lying and being there between Torre-Mohun on the South, the land of John Cokeman on the West, the King's Highway on the North,

and the Church path on the East, containing seventy feet in length, and twenty-four in breadth, to hold the same to the ten persons above-named, and to their assigns for ever, to the use of the parish Church, under the yearly rent to the Abbot and Convent and their successors of 16*d.* at Michaelmas, in lieu of all other demands and services."

The rules of the Order were rigidly observed. The monks of Torre Abbey wore hair shirts, and abstained from meats; while their daily and nightly services were numerous and exhausting. The Abbey grew rich at the expense of the parish or secular clergy of the neighbourhood, some of whom were reduced to want. Among the papers in the parish chest at Tavistock, there is a petition from the officiating priest to the Parishioners in vestry, begging for a pair of shoes.*

With the lapse of years, the sterner rules of life were relaxed; with their relaxation were introduced luxury and idleness, and thus the way was prepared for numerous evils and abuses. It is but fair, however, to say, that of all the Religious Houses in the kingdom Torre Abbey appears to have come out of the inquiry conducted by the Commissioners of Henry VIII. with the least blame. But the reputation of the Abbey for piety and purity could not avert the doom which had been pronounced upon that and other similar institutions. Had but a tithe of the complaints made against them been established, the monasteries would still have been confiscated. The open and lawless lives of many of the religious Orders simply precipitated the Reformation. For more than two hundred years the land had groaned under the exactions of Rome; money was not only extorted on all sorts of pretences from the monasteries, but no opportunity was lost of wringing it from the people and secular clergy. The taxes paid to the Pope was five-fold that paid to the King from the whole realm.† When, therefore, Wicliffe appeared upon the scene in 1354,

* Mrs. Bray's *Traditions of Devonshire.*

† Cotton's Abridgment, p. 128.

the people were already ripe for throwing off the yoke of Rome. The warfare upon which he entered with the monks resulted in his triumph, and although his teachings found no favour at Court, they were peculiarly acceptable to the people, "because he taught them that the Pope had no more power than the ordinary priest to excommunicate or absolve men; that neither bishop nor pope can validly excommunicate any man, unless by sin he has first made himself obnoxious to God." * The determination of Henry VIII., therefore, to suppress the monasteries, was due not so much to personal feeling as it was to carry out a desire which he knew was strongly present in the minds of the people. It is stated that one day, as the King was conversing with Sir Thomas Wyatt on the contemplated suppression of the monasteries, he expressed his apprehension on the subject, saying he foresaw it would excite general alarm should the Crown resume to itself such extensive possessions as that belonging to the Church. "True, Sire," replied Sir Thomas, "But what if the rook's nest were buttered?" Henry understood the force and application of the proverb, and from that moment is said to have formed the decision of making the nobility a party to the transaction by giving to them a portion of the Church lands. †

The last of the abbots was Simon Rede, by whom the Monastery was surrendered to the Commissioners who were appointed to receive it. Rede, with fifteen monks—the number had considerably increased since the original endowment—and about fifty lay brothers and servants, left the grand old Abbey on the 25th of April, 1539. The Abbot had a comfortable annuity granted him of £66 13*s.* 4*d.*; he was still living in 1553, but it is not stated whether he continued to receive his income: it is well known that in a few years after the dissolution the annuities granted to most of the dispossessed abbots were irregularly paid, and at last ceased altogether.

* Fox, *Acts and Mon.*, vol. 1, p. 557.

† Notte's Edition of Surrey and Wyatt, vol. 2, p. 31.

According to Dr. Oliver, the following pensions were granted 25 April, 31 Henry VIII. :—

	£	s.	d.
To Simon Rede, the Abbot, per an. ...	66	13	4
Richard Mylton	7	0	0
John Asterege	6	0	0
John Bagwell	6	0	0
John Shapeley	4	0	0
John Lane	4	0	0
John Wyll	5	0	0
Thomas Jamys	5	0	0
Thomas Lawdymere	5	0	0
Thomas Clement	5	0	0
John Payne	5	0	0
Thomas Brygeman	2	0	0
Thomas Emet	2	0	0
John Ffermer	2	0	0
Thomas Knolle	2	0	0
Richard Yong	2	0	0

The annual revenues of the Abbey amounted to £396 0*s.* 11*d.*

In the Taxatio of Edward I. appears the following statement :—

ABBAS DE TORRE HABET.

	£	s.	d.
Apud Wolleburgh que tax	4	4	8
Tunstall and Aueton	3	13	4
Apud Fflede	0	11	8
Apud Helgrug de Redd	1	0	0
Apud Gormingeston	3	0	0
Apud Grendell	3	1	0
Apud Shillingford	2	4	8
Apud Dabecombe	2	15	0
Apud Ilesham	1	15	0
Apud Coleton	1	5	0
Sumna...	23	11	0
Decima...	2	7	1

The following is a list of the Abbots who had the government of Torre Abbey:—

1.—Adam, who arrived at Tor on the 25th March, 1196.
2.—Simon, succeeded in 1200.*
3.—Brianus, confirmed Abbot on Whitsunday, 1264.
4.—Richard, admitted on Ascension Day, 1270.
5.—Simon de Plympton, confirmed 7th September, 1330.
6.—John, admitted 21st May, 1349.
7.—John Cras, 6th December, 1351.
8.—Richard.
9.—John Berkedene.
10.—William Norton, confirmed July 27th, 1382.
11.—Matthew Yerde or Yard, succeeded 19th July, 1412.
12.—William Mychell, 19th March, 1413–14.
13.—John Lacey, 31st January, 1442.
14.—Richard Cade, about 1463.
15.—Thomas Dyare or Dyer, about 1500.
16.—Simon Rede, elected in August, 1523.

The annual revenues accruing to the Crown from the multitude of houses suppressed amounted to upwards of £160,000. The number of ecclesiastical houses thus disposed of were 645 monasteries, having 28 abbots in Parliament, 90 colleges, 2,374 chapels and free chantries, and 110 hospitals. This property, with the revenues belonging to them, it is estimated would be about £60,000,000.

This overthrow of a great institution which, with all its faults and errors, had accomplished some good in its day, was productive of such a dislocation of society as to cause many lamentable results. Pauperism, which the lax administration of the ecclesiastical Orders had greatly tended to promote, was now charged upon the hundreds and corporate towns; but this did not suffice, and accordingly able-bodied beggars, sturdy monks and nuns, no longer able to batten on the charity of the Church, swarmed through the

* Mr. Oliver states that Robert also appears as the second abbot (probably he was what in modern times is termed a *locum tenens*), as he finds him as a witness to a covenant between the Dean and Chapter of Exeter and the Abbot and Convent of Buckfastleigh, made at Exeter on the 29th June, 1228.

country, creating disaffection and riots. Various measures were adopted to meet this pauperism, but it was not till the 43rd year of Elizabeth that a general assessment of all property was made for the relief of the sick, aged, or impotent, and the employment of the able-bodied.

On the dissolution of the monasteries, Tor Abbey and its demesne were in 1543 granted by Henry VIII. to his favourite, John St. Leger. This gentleman, it would seem, had some scruple about the tenure, for in the very same year he converted it into cash, or some other "valuable consideration," by disposing of it to Sir Hugh Pollard, whose grandson, Hugh Pollard, conveyed it by deed on the 2nd April, 1580, to Sir Edmund Seymour, of Berry Pomeroy. The son and heir of this baronet sold the property eighteen years after (18th November, 4th Elizabeth) to Thomas Ridgeway, ancestor of the Earls of Londonderry, who, as the successor of the Mohuns, was at that time the lord of the manor of Tor Mohun. The demesne of Tor Abbey was granted by letters Patent in the last year of the reign of King Edward the Sixth to John Ridgeway and John Petre,* and their heirs. To the inhabitants of Torquay the document† is of sufficient interest to warrant its being given at length:—

"The King, to all to whom these presents shall come, sends greeting: Know that we, for the sum of nine hundred and fifty-eight pounds six shillings and eight pence of lawful money of England in the hand of Edmund Peckham, Knight, for our use well and truly paid by our beloved John Ridgeway and John Petre, Esquires, which we acknowledge to have been fully satisfied, and that from the payment thereof the same John Ridgeway and John Petre, their heirs, executors, and administrators, are by these presents fully exonerated and discharged, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and our own free will, have given and granted, and do by these presents give and grant, unto the aforesaid

* John Petre appears to have acted in the capacity of trustee.

† The original is in the possession of Sir L. Palk, at Haldon.

John Ridgeway and John Petre, all that our manor o Odichnoll* and Chamleigh, with all its rights, members liberties, and appurtenances, in our county of Devon, for merly parcel of lands in the possession and reversion o the late monastery of Christchurch, Twyneham, in ou county of Sussex, now dissolved. And all that our Manor of Tormohun, with all its rights, members, liberties, and appurtenances, in the said county of Devon, formerly be longing and appertaining to the late monastery of Torre in the same county of Devon, now dissolved, being parcel of lands lately in their possession and reversion. And all and singular the messuages, mills, granaries, houses, edifices, barns, stables, dove houses, plantations, orchards gardens, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pasture, commons, wastes, brakes, heather, thickets, marshes, turbaries, waters, fisheries, rights of fishing, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, rents of assize, and rents reserved upon any leases, and rents as well of free as customary tenants, natives,† male and female, and villeins and their goods and chattels. And also courts leet, view of frankpledge, waifs, estrays, the goods of felons, fugitives, and suicides, deodands, treasure trove, wrecks of the sea, warrens, wardships, marriages, escheats, releases, fines, amercements, customs, fairs, market tolls, dues, service and aids of tenantry. And all and singular our rights, jurisdictions, franchises, liberties, privileges, profits, commodities, emoluments, and hereditaments, whatsoever, with all their appurtenances, situate, lying, and being in Odichnoll, Chamleigh, Edgynswell, South Wilberg, and Tormohun, in the said county of Devon, and all other places whatsoever in the same county of Devon, known as the Manor of Odichnoll and Chamleigh, and the said Manor of Tormohun, or to either of them, in any manner belonging or appertaining or at any time heretofore held, known, accepted, occupied, leased, used, or reputed to be members, parts or parcels of

* In the parish of Kingskerswell.

† Natives, *i. e.* slaves born on the premises.

A The hill where this was drawen
B The Tower which remaines of y^e^ old Church
C The Ruines of the Old Church.
D The Old Buildings belonging to y^e^ Abby.
E The New buildings.
F The Gatehouse ony^e^ west side of y^e^ Abby.
G The Orchard
H The old Gatehouse.
I The old Barne
K Old Ruines.
L Painton Key.
M Painton Towne,
N Leuermead Key.
O The hill aboue Blayto
P Chilsen.
Q Torr Church,
R S^t^ Maries Chapell.



the same manors, or any of them. And also all those our lands called Halingcombe, with the appurtenances, containing by estimation sixteen acres, lying and being in the parish of Ley, in our county of Somerset, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Philip Horner, and some time since belonging and appertaining to and being part of the possession of the late Gild of Stokelane, otherwise called Mychell Stoke, within the parish of Dowlting, in the said county of Somerset, now dissolved. And also all those our lands and pastures, with the appurtenances, called Lamon Field, with its appurtenances, now or late in the tenure or occupation of William Collyns, of Englyshcombe, and Johanna, his wife, and William, their son, lying and being within the parish of Camerton, in our county of Somerset, and sometime since belonging and appertaining to and being part of the possession of the late Priory of Bathe, in the same co. of Somerset, now dissolved. And also all and all manner of our woods, underwoods, and trees, whatsoever, in and upon all and singular the premises growing and being, and all the ground roots and soil of the same woods and underwoods. And the reversion and reversions whatsoever of all and singular the premises or any part thereof. And also the rents and annual profits whatsoever reserved on any leases and grants of the premises, or any part thereof, in any way, made as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any Prior or Abbot of the said Monastery of Christchurch, Twyneham, or any Abbot of the said late Monastery of Torre, or any Guardian, Master, or Governor of the said late Gild of Stokelane, otherwise called Mychell Stoke, or any Prior of the said late Priory of Bathe, or any other or others heretofore holding, possessing, or being seized of the aforesaid Manor, and other the premises, or any part thereof, at any time had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, or enjoyed the same. And as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as the same came or ought to have come to, or now

are, or ought to be, or to have been, in our hands, or the hands of our most beloved father, Henry VIII., late King of England, either by reason or on account of the said respective dissolution of the said late Monasteries, Priory, and Gild, or by reason or on account of any deed of gift, grant, or confirmation, heretofore made to us or to our aforesaid father, or by reason or on account of any Act or Acts of Parliament, or in any other manner, right, or title whatsoever. And further, we give, and for the consideration aforesaid by these presents grant, unto the aforesaid John Ridgeway and John Petre, within the aforesaid Manors and all others, the premises and within any part thereof, such, the same, and the like courts leet, view of frankpledge, and all things belonging or appertaining to view of frankpledge, and assays of bread, wine, and beer. And also waifs, estrays, goods of felons, fugitives, and suicides, and deodands, treasure-trove, wreck of the sea, free warren, and all other our rights, jurisdictions, liberties, franchises, privileges, profits, commodities, emoluments, and hereditaments, as and as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any Prior or Abbot of the said late Monastery of Christchurche, or any Abbot of the said late Monastery of Torre, or any Guardian, Master, or Governor of the said late Gild of Twyneham, Stokelane, otherwise Mychell Stoke, or any Priest of the said late Priory of Bathe, or other or others heretofore holding, possessing, or being seized of the aforesaid Manor and other premises, or any part thereof at any time had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, or enjoyed, in the aforesaid Manor, and other the premises, or any part thereof, by reason or on account of any Deed of gift, grant, or confirmation, or any Letters Patent heretofore made, granted, or confirmed by us, or by any predecessor of ours on the throne of England, or by reason or on account of any prescription, use, or custom heretofore had or used, or in or by any other manner, right, or title. All which Manors, and all and singular other the premises before mentioned and expressed, with the appurtenances,

now reach the clear yearly value of £38 8*s*. To have, hold, and enjoy the aforesaid manors, messuages, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, woods, underwoods, rents, reversions, services, liberties, franchises, privileges, hereditaments, and all and singular other the premises hereinbefore expressed and described, with all their rights, members, and appurtenances, to the aforesaid John Ridgeway and John Petre, their heirs, and assigns for ever, to the proper use and behoof of them the said John Ridgeway and John Petre, their heirs, and assigns for ever. To hold the aforesaid Manor of Odichnoll and Chamleigh, and the said Manor of Tormohun, and all other the premises, with the appurtenances belonging to the same Manors, or belonging and appertaining to either of them, as aforesaid, of us, our heirs, and successors, *in capite* by the services of the *fortieth part of one Knight's fee*. And to hold the aforesaid lands, meadows, pastures, and other the premises in the said parishes of Ley and Camerton, in the said county of Somerset, of us, our heirs, and successors, as of our Manor of East Greenwiche, in our county of Kent, by fealty only in *fee socage*, and not *in capite* at all, the rents, services, and demands whatsoever, for the said premises, or any of them, in any way rendered, paid, or made to us, our heirs, or successors. And, moreover, of our further grace we give, and for the consideration aforesaid by these presents grant, unto the said John Ridgeway and John Petre, all issues, rents, reversions, and profits issuing or arising from the aforesaid Manors, and all and singular other the premises from the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel last past: To hold to them, the said John Ridgeway and John Petre, of our gift, so to be rendered, paid, or made, without composition and in no other way than the same would have been rendered, paid, or made to us, our heirs, and successors. And, moreover, we will, and for the consideration aforesaid grant, unto the said John Ridgeway and John Petre, their heirs, and assigns, that we, our heirs, and successors, will exonerate, acquit, and keep indemnified for ever, yearly,

and from time to time, as well the same John Ridgeway and John Petre, their executors, administrators, assigns, and any of them, as the aforesaid manors, messuages, lands, tenements, and all and singular other the premises, and any part thereof, as against our heirs and successors, and as against any other person and persons whomsoever, from all and all manner of corrodies, rents, fees, annuities, pensions, portions, and sums of money, and incumbrance whatsoever, from the aforesaid manors, and any other the premises, or any part thereof, in any manner issuing or due, or thereupon charged or to be charged; and also from the services hereinbefore reserved by these presents; and besides, from any leases and grants for terms of life or years, made of the premises, or any part thereof, on which the ancient rent or more is reserved; and besides, from the twenty shillings yearly for the Right of Bailiwick within the aforesaid Manor of Odichnoll and Chamleigh, and moreover, from the 26*s.* 8*d.* due yearly for the Right of Bailiwick within the aforesaid Manor of Tormohun. For we willing, and by these presents firmly enjoining, command the Chancellor and Surveyor-General and the Counsel of our Court of Augmentation of our Crown, as well as every Receiver, Auditor, and other Officer and Minister, whatsoever, of us, our heirs, and successors for the time being, that they and any of them, upon their construction alone of these our Letters Patent, or the enrolment of the same, without having in any manner produced or obtained any other Writ or Warrant from us, our heirs, or successors, shall make or cause to be made from time to time to the said John Ridgeway and John Petre, their heirs, and assigns, full, entire, and due allocation* and clear exoneration from all and all manner of corrodies, rents, fees, and annuities, and sums of money, and incumbrances whatsoever, from the premises issuing, or due, or thereupon charged or to be charged as aforesaid. And that these our Letters Patent, or the enrolment of the same, shall be

* An allowance made upon account in the Exchequer.

yearly and from time to time a sufficient warrant and discharge in this behalf, as well for the said Chancellor and Surveyor-General and the Counsel of our said Court of Augmentation of our Crown, as for every Receiver, Auditor, and other Officer and Minister, of our own heirs and successors whatsoever for the time being, and any of them. And also we will, and by these presents grant, unto the said John Ridgeway and John Petre that they have and shall have these our Letters Patent made and sealed in due manner, under our great seal of England, without fine or fee, large or small, in any way rendered, paid, or made to us in our Hanaper Office, or elsewhere, to our use. Therefore that express mention, &c. In witness whereof, &c. Witness the King at Westminster, the 24th day of February.

"By writ of Privy Seal," &c., &c.

With the Londonderry family the entire manor remained until about the year 1653, when it was again divided into two portions; the demesne of Tor Abbey was sold to John Stowell, from whom, in 1662, it was purchased by Sir George Cary of Cockington. The Manor of Tormohun (or Torwood, as it is now commonly known) passed by the marriage* of Lucy Ridgeway, one of the Londonderry co-heiresses, to Arthur, Earl of Donegal (October 3rd, 1716), into that family; and in 1768 was purchased by Sir Robert Palk. In the possession of the descendants of Sir George Cary and Sir Robert Palk the respective estates remain to the present time.

* The deeds and marriage settlement are among the valuable documents in the possession of Sir L. Palk, at Haldon.

CHAPTER THE FOURTH.

Condition of the District in the Sixteenth Century.—Leland's Account of Torbay, &c.—Torr Key, temp. Henry VIII.—The Effects of Maritime Discoveries.—Tor part of the "Port of Dartmouth."—The Spirit of Adventure.—Local Maritime Enterprise.—Local Names and Customs perpetuated in the New Colonies.

OF the condition of this district in the sixteenth century, John Leland gives some account. He was librarian to Henry VIII., and was commissioned to travel through the country and make a survey. On his return from Cornwall he passed through this parish, in 1525. He writes: "After passing Penton (Paignton) almost three miles, there cummeth down a praty broke, and running by the shore sands goith into the see in Torrebay. Torrebay village and Priorie a mile off. There is a peere and socour for fischar boats in the bottom by Torre Prior. In this priorie be three fair gate houses. William Bruer the first made this house on his own ground. Bruer bought Torre Mohun, thereby, and gave it to this Abbay. Petrus filius (Matthæi there buried) gave land to it. Dawney gave Northton to this priorie. . . . . iseakre, a rich merchant, gave much to this priorie. Men of Dertmouth caulle it but four miles betwixt mouth of Dert and Torre, but I take it to be more, and that but only on to Byri Pointe. The west pointe of Torrebay is caullid Byri, and more than within a mile of this pointe is a praty Toune of Fischar men, called Brixham, and this toune is a member of the privilege of Dertmouth. I marked almost in the middle of this bay one house set on the hard shore, and a small peere by it as a socour for fischar boats [Livermead]. I take this bay of Torre by

estimation to be a ten miles and more in compace, and Byri and Petitorre pointes be distant a great lege, that is, about a four miles. Fischar men hath divers tymes taken up with theyr nettes yn Torrebay mussons of harts, whereby men judge that in tymes paste it hath been forest grounds. The est pointe of Torrebay ys caullid Petitorre, and to the sight it is not so much pointed as Byri Hept is. There is by Petitorre a great rokke called Ileston, or an isle environed with the sea. There is another rokkey isle far bigger than Ileston, and is caullid Horestone. It lyeth a mile south est into the se from Petitorre Point. There is also an isle caullid Blak Rok. This lyeth by the shore about a mile by south est from Petitorre, towards Teignmouth. From Petitorre to Teignmouth by a shore a little baying is a five miles scant. The whole ground betwixt Torrebay and Exmouth, booth sumwhat to the shore, and especially inward, is wel inclosed, fruteful of corne and grasse, and meatly wel wodid, and this quarter is caullid the South Hammes, being the frutefulest part of all Devonshire. From Torrebay Priorie and Towne to Hacham a 3 miles."

In a chart or bird's eye view of the havens and rivers of South Devon, as they appeared in the time of Henry VIII., from a roll in the Cottonian Library, "Torre Key" is a very prominent object, being apparently a rudely constructed pier, the outer arm being in the direction of the west. On the hill once known as the Beacon, now the site of the Baths, and also on Livermead Head, are depicted two castles or forts, and beneath each are the words "not made." It appears that while the kingdom was alternately ravaged by the partisans of the Houses of York and Lancaster—issues which were not materially felt in the south—the French and other freebooters seized the opportunity of pillaging the coast towns. It was for the better defence of the shore that Henry VIII. caused a survey to be made, and a cordon of forts was recommended. Many of these forts were built, but no attempt was made to raise any on the shores of Torbay.

The discovery of America by Columbus in the reign of Henry VII., the voyage of Vasco de Gama round the Cape of Good Hope to India, together with the repeated voyages of the Cabots to the West, awakened the spirit of adventure in the men of Devonshire. The "Port of Dartmouth" figures very largely in the annals of the reign of Elizabeth. From thence John Davis made three voyages to discover a North-West passage to China, and pushed his way up the Straits which bear his name. This was in 1585, 1586, and 1587. Davis was associated in this undertaking with Adrian Gilbert, and was assisted by Secretary Walsingham and the Exeter Guild of Merchants. Davis failed to find the North-West passage, and so in the fourth adventure he took the oceanic route to India, and introduced the trade to Exeter and Dartmouth. Sir John Ross, writing of Davis's Arctic voyages, says, "The discoveries which he made in the course of his three voyages proved of great commercial importance; since to him, more than to any preceding or subsequent navigator, has the whale fishery been indebted. Let not his name be slightly passed over! In talent he has not had many rivals; and it is ignorance, probably, rather than ingratitude, which fails to thank him for the debts owed him by British commerce." Raleigh, the Gilberts, and others, equipped expeditions for discovering and colonizing new countries. In the honours which are thus ascribed to Dartmouth, Tor and the district have a large share; the whole of this seaboard formed an integral part of "the Port of Dartmouth" before the time that the dues of the port were granted to Richard Cœur de Lion. On one occasion—the siege of Calais—the *port* of Dartmouth furnished 31 ships and nearly 800 men. This, clearly, could not refer to the town of Dartmouth alone, for at that time its population was far below the number of men on board the vessels. It is evident from this fact that "the port" meant the whole of the district embraced in the king's fiscal port, and not the haven alone.

The glowing accounts of the successes of the Spaniards

in America, and the vast quantities of treasure brought home to Europe, fired the minds of the people of Devon to such a degree, that adventurers like Drake, Hawkins, Frobisher, Raleigh, and Gilbert, had no difficulty in obtaining all the men they required to go in quest of new lands, or to despoil the gold-laden galleons on their homeward voyage. The Port of Dartmouth was at one time the third in importance in the Kingdom. Newfoundland was colonised by west countrymen, and its fish trade centred in Dartmouth. From Cockington, Tor, Ipplepen, Denbury, Paignton, and all the hamlets that fringe the banks of the Dart from Totnes to Dartmouth, came numbers of hardy men full of daring and enterprise, ready either to devote their energies to the peaceful pursuits of colonization, or to join a band of adventurers in a descent on the Spanish Main. And it is owing to these early colonizers that the names of Devonshire harbours and towns are reproduced in Newfoundland and many other parts of the New World. There is a Torbay on the east coast of Newfoundland; there is another in Nova Scotia; Davis named Exeter Sound in honour of the Company who helped him; and Bridgetown, Dartmouth, and others, are widely perpetuated. At this very day, in the annual sports of some of the villages of Newfoundland, many of the customs which prevail in Devonshire are observed. As an illustration, it may be stated that in the village of Denbury, six miles from Torquay, an annual fair is held. As a part of the fun of the fair, there is a procession of the country-folk, and the prominent feature therein is a representation of Old Father and Mother Denbury. The fair was granted by charter, in which reference is made to these personages; but there is nothing on record to explain why their memory should be thus commemorated. In some of the villages of Newfoundland, Denbury fair is also held, with the identical procession, and the figures of Old Father and Mother Denbury as the principal attraction.

CHAPTER THE FIFTH.

The Spanish Armada.—Government Instructions to Mr. George Cary, Sir John Gilbert, and Sir Edward Seymour, to call out the Train-bands.—Drake Singeing Philip's Beard.—Strength of the Armada and the English Fleet.—Off the Lizard.—Plymouth.—The Beacon Fires in Torbay.—Up Channel.—The First Shot.—Don Pedro's Galleon captured and brought into Torbay.—Lack of Ammunition.—The Fight in the Channel.

THE events which occurred on the shores of Torbay, in connection with that greatest of all England's dangers, the threatened Spanish Armada, deserves more than a passing record. Philip's determination to attack England was boastfully proclaimed throughout Europe. During the year 1586 a large fleet had been gathering in the Tagus, and from the close of that year the work of preparation for the grand enterprise was actively pushed forward both by sea and land.

All England was aroused. National patriotism overcame religious enmities. Catholics but lately in secret league against the Queen vied with the Protestants in their zeal to repel the bigotted and fanatical tyrant who represented the cause of Rome. Amongst the urgent orders despatched to the county leaders at this crisis, were letters to Mr. George Cary, of Cockington; to Sir John Gilbert, of Compton; and Colonel Sir Edward Seymour, of Torre Abbey, enjoining all despatch in the raising of men and horse.

In the spring of 1587 (April 2nd), Sir Francis Drake sailed from Plymouth in the hope of frustrating the designs

of the Spaniards, and though, in consequence of a recall, he did not succeed in this, he at least retarded the sailing of the enemy's fleet, and gained what was extremely valuable to the English at that moment,—time. On the morning of his departure, Sir Francis wrote to Walsingham: "This last night past came unto us the ship *Royal Merchant*, with four of the rest of the London fleet; the wind would permit them no sooner. The wind commands me away—our ship is under sail. God grant we may so live in this fear as the enemy may have cause to say that God doth fight for her Majesty as well abroad as at home."* Animated with this stout spirit, the writer entered Cadiz harbour on the 19th of April. He arrived not a moment too soon, for the fleet there was preparing to join the still greater fleet at Lisbon. Drake, with marvellous dash and courage, swooped down upon the Spaniards. In thirty-six hours he burnt, sunk, or captured, shipping of ten thousand tons burthen, bringing home with him to England a large galleon laden with specie,—a seasonable prize, which was used for the payment of the soldiers and sailors. This splendid service, which Sir Francis called "Singeing the Spanish King's Beard," averted that monarch's attack for a period.

During the summer and winter of 1587, the country was placed in as good a state of defence as the time and condition of the treasury would permit. Surveys were taken of the coast, especial attention being paid to Devon and Cornwall, for on some part of the western peninsula it was believed the descent would be made.

In the spring of 1588 a Commission was issued to Sir William Courtenay, Sir Robert Denys, Sir John Gilbert, Sir Arthur Basset, and Sir John Chichester, who were to assemble together and make the best arrangements for the defence of the country. They had authority to raise and equip two thousand footmen, and two hundred horsemen. In addition, the clergy provided thirty-one horses, eight

* Barrow's *Life of Drake.*

corslets, seventy-five muskets, one hundred and eighty-four calivers, and ninety-eight bills. The Dean and Chapter of Exeter furnished eleven horses, ten corslets, seven muskets, and five calivers. The county was divided into three military divisions, and in each division there were raised two regiments, each consisting of eight hundred men. Sir William Courtenay and Sir Thomas Denys were appointed Colonels in the East; Mr. Fortescue and Mr. Pollard in the West; and Sir Edward Seymour, owner of Torre Abbey, and Mr. George Cary, owner of Cockington, who had lately been summoned from the direction of defensive works at Dover, were in command of two regiments for the protection of the South.

At length "The Most Fortunate and Invincible Armada" was ready for sea. The vessels of which it was composed were chiefly of two kinds; the largest, known as galleons—heavy, unwieldy ships, curiously built, and having in the after part as many as five or six decks—appeared at a distance like huge floating castles; the smaller ones, called galleasses, or galleys, were propelled by oars as well as by sails. The whole force consisted of one hundred and thirty-two vessels, of the total burthen of 60,000 tons. The cannon, demi-cannon, culverins, and demi-culverins, the fowlers, the great basses, the fawronets, and other kinds of ordnance, numbered in all 3,165 pieces. There were on board 8,766 sailors, 2,088 galley slaves, and 21,855 soldiers, officers, and volunteers, besides 300 monks, priests, and functionaries of the Inquisition. Room was also provided for 17,000 more soldiers who were to be shipped at or near Calais.

The English fleet which had to withstand this great armament was comparatively insignificant. The whole of the Royal Navy consisted of only thirty-four ships; the merchants were, therefore, called upon to place their craft at the disposal of the Government; but it may be readily understood that as these were simply traders, they were in no way suitable for warlike purposes. The navy proper

consisted of thirty-four ships of an aggregate burthen of 11,850 tons, and carried only 837 guns and 6,279 men. London, Plymouth, Dartmouth, Exeter, every port in fact, furnished vessels and men, numbers of gentlemen serving on board as Volunteers. The Netherlands supplied a contingent of twenty ships, the largest of which, however, was not more than 80 tons. At length Lord Howard found that the fleet under his command consisted of two hundred sail, large and small, many being but pinnaces. The total burthen was 30,000 tons, and the number of men about 16,000. The English force was thus comparatively weak, but what was wanting in numbers, strength, and material, was more than compensated by devotion, courage, and skill.

On the 20th of May, 1588, the Armada sailed out of the Tagus. When off Cape Finisterre, tempestuous weather drove it back. The same storm also inflicted injuries on the English squadron of observation, which was compelled to return to the English coast for repairs. On the 12th of July the Armada again left Spain, and on the 19th sighted the Lizard Point. According to a letter afterwards written by Don Pedro to the King of Spain, it appears that it was the intention of the Duke de Medina Sidonia, who had the command of the Armada, to have surprised the English fleet in Plymouth Sound. This, however, was prevented; for a pilot named Fleming, having noticed the approach of the Spaniards, crowded on all sail for Plymouth, and communicated the news to Lord Howard, who, with Drake and others, so tradition says, were at that moment playing bowls on Plymouth Hoe. Drake demurred to being disturbed, saying, "Nay, let us play out our match; there will be plenty of time to win the game, and beat the Spaniards too."

That July night each headland and point along the coast blazed forth with its beacon fire. The preconcerted signal, announcing the coming of the Spaniards in the Channel, was thoroughly understood. From Plymouth Hoe, the Staddon Heights, Wembury, Prawle, and Start, the

board Sir Francis's ship with forty of his followers, where, first giving him the *congé*, he protested that he and all his were ready to die in defence had they not fallen under his power, whose valour and felicity was so great, that Mars and Neptune seemed to attend him in his attempts, and whose generous mind towards the vanquished had often been experienced, even of his greatest foes. Sir Francis, requiting his Spanish compliments with honourable English courtesies, placed him at his table, and lodged him in his own cabin. The residue of that company were sent to Plymouth, where they remained eighteen months, until their ransoms were paid; but Sir Francis's soldiers had well paid themselves with the spoil of the ship, wherein were 15,000 ducats in gold, which they shared merrily among them." Sir Francis Drake transferred the *Capitana* to Capt. Jacob Whiddon of the *Roebuck*, 350 tons, belonging to Sir Walter Raleigh, and with the assistance of some Brixham fishermen she was brought into Torbay, where she was entrusted to the safe keeping of Mr. George Cary and Sir John Gilbert.

At five o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 23rd, the Spaniards were off Portland, where "the most furious and bloody skirmish of all" took place.

In the course of Wednesday the English ships were unable to continue the engagement in consequence of the exhaustion of their ammunition. Fast sailing pinnaces scoured the coasts, gleaning every ounce of powder that could be obtained. The following despatches will fairly indicate the condition of the fleet in this respect:—

"I have received letters from the Right Hon. the Lord High Admiral of England, advertising unto me that his Lordship hath taken two great carracks or ships from the enemy, and sent to the shore, wherein is great store of powder and shot in either of them, and requireth that all the said powder and shot shall be sent unto his Lordship with all possible expedition, for that the state of the realm dependeth upon the present supply of such want.

"These are, therefore, in Her Majesty's name, straightly to charge and command you forthwith, upon receipt hereof, you make diligent enquiry to what place the said carracks or ships are gone, and if they shall arrive near you, to cause the said powder and shot to be conveyed to his Lordship with all good speed.

"Further charging you and commanding you to take the like order, by giving intelligence hereof from port to port, until his Lordship's command shall therein be performed.

"Whereof fail you not upon your allegiance.

"RICHARD PITTS, Mayor.

"Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, this 24th of July, 1588.

"P.S.—You shall find the English fleet on the sea between this place and the Isle of Wight, or eastwards.

"To the Mayor of Lyme Regis, and, in his absence, to her Majesty's officers in that place."

"Received this, the same day, by nine of the clock in the morning, and have sent out for the same purpose to seek out the same ships, and we see one great ship alone to lie in sight of this town of Lyme, and we think it is one of the ships. "JOHN JONES, Mayor."

"Received, the said 24th day, at two o'clock in the afternoon. "ROBERT DENYS."

"Mr. UPTON,—Repair, I pray you, forthwith, to Dartmouth, and despatch away the powder and shot, according to the contents of this direction. "JOHN GILBERT.

"GEORGE CARY.

"Received the 24th July, about nine of the clock."

Two days afterwards, on the 26th, the Council sent an urgent order to Sir John Gilbert, requiring him to remove the powder from the *Capitana* and send it to the fleet.

This order, however, had been anticipated, as will be seen by the reply :—

"My duty unto your honours most humbly remembered. I have received your lordships' letter of the 26th of July for the sending away of 300 or 400 barrels to the Earl of Sussex, out of the Spanish ship taken by Her Majesty's fleet (all which powder and shot that could be found in her was sent away to my Lord Admiral), for that his Lordship sent to Weymouth this direction for powder and shot, and also sent a pinnace from the fleet of purpose for the powder and shot that was in the ship, which was but 88 barrels of powder and 1,600 shot, that I could by any means learn of); after, I came to sea, and if I find any in unloading of the ship, I will with all speed send it to the Earl of Sussex, according to your honours' directions, and will have special care for the putting in safety of the ordnance and other munitions and goods in the ship whatsoever.

"Having no further to trouble your Honours withall at present, most humbly I take my leave.

"From Greenway, this 29th July, 1588.

"Your Honours' most humbly to command,

"JOHN GILBERT.

"To the Right Hon. and very good Lords, the Lords of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council."

While the battle was going on in the Channel, the Privy Council, in a letter signed by Hatton, Burghley, and five others, desired the Archbishop of Canterbury to "order the parsons to get the people to pray against the Spaniards."

To return to the fight. The Armada still held on and was driven into Calais. On Sunday night, the 28th, the Spaniards were thrown into utter confusion by the fire ships sent amongst them by the English; they slipped their cables and stood out to sea, where they were again assailed with untiring energy. And here the work of destruction

commenced by England's navy was completed "by a more violent storm than was ever seen before at that time of the year." Completely crippled, the Invincible Armada staggered before the storm through the North Sea, and round the Scottish and Irish coasts, and the remnant that reached Spain comprised only fifty-three ships out of the hundred and thirty-two which had so vauntingly set forth in the early part of July.

CHAPTER THE SIXTH.

Landing of the Spanish Prisoners.—The Guard of Demi-Lances.—Mr. Cary demands a stronger Guard.—Asks for a hundred and fifty of Mr. Fulford's Band.—The Prisoners in the Spanish Barn.—Mr. Cary's Letter to the Privy Council describing the Prize.—The Galleon taken to Dartmouth.—The Prisoners sent to Exeter.—A Dispute about the Wine taken from the Spaniards.—An Account of the Maintenance of the Prisoners.—Inventory of the Ordnance and Stores on board the Galleon.—Differences between Mr. Cary and Sir J. Gilbert.—Disposal of the Stores.—Condition of the Prisoners.—Mr. Cary contributes to their Maintenance at Exeter.—How the Spanish Wine went.—Refutation of the Story that the Prisoners were Starved to Death.—Alleged Fight in Cole's Lane.—A Ghost Story.

DON PEDRO'S ship was brought into Torbay on the 26th. On the 27th, Mr. Cary, in a letter to the Privy Council, speaks of the ship, the arrival of which "your honours have been heretofore advertized of." It can be well understood how eagerly the inhabitants of Brixham, Paignton, Cockington, of Torre and St. Mary-Church, flocked out to see the ship towed in by the *Roebuck*, assisted by a number of Brixham fishermen.* They exulted in the defeat of the Spaniards, against whom they entertained feelings of the deepest hatred. Mr. Cary speaks of the "peril" of keeping the prisoners, and of the "discontentment over the country, greatest of all that a nation so much disliking unto them should remain amongst them." It is on record

* Mr. Froude, in his History of England, speaks of the *Roebuck* as a trawler; the fact is, the *Roebuck* was a ship of 350 tons burthen, belonging to Sir Walter Raleigh, and commanded by as daring a man as any in the fleet,—Captain Jacob Whiddon.

that an order was given for the execution of the Spaniards wherever they should be found; but, happily, the dreadful behest was rescinded, and the annals of England escaped being stained by so bloody a deed. The number of prisoners being not much less than four hundred, Mr. Cary and Sir John Gilbert would not permit them to be landed unless guarded by soldiers. Whether the men were landed on the quay or on the sands is not known. The probability is in favour of the latter, as it was the nearest to the Barn, the place destined for their safe custody, and the sands were sufficiently capacious, hard, and firm, to permit the manœuvring of a troop of horse to cover the landing. The Spaniards were brought on shore and guarded by a troop of demi-lances which had been quartered at St. Mary-Church. Mr. Cary demanded a stronger force, fearing that the soldiery he had were insufficient to control so large a body of prisoners; and on the 9th of August the Council wrote to him requiring him "to allege reasons why the one hundred and fifty men of Mr. Fulford's band ought to be assigned to him in addition, for the better defence of Torbay." The Spaniards were imprisoned in the Grange close by Torre Abbey, and from that circumstance it has ever since borne the name of the Spanish Barn. It was for some time in doubt whether the prisoners were ever placed there. This doubt, however, has been set at rest by undeniable documentary evidence. For example, in a letter written by Sir H. Gilbert and Mr. George Cary to the Privy Council, dated 29th August, in accounting for the manner in which the wines on board the *Capitana* had been disposed of, they go on to state, "We have bestowed four pipes of the said wine, the one on my Lord Seymour for cumbering his house with these Spanish prisoners, until the ship was cleared, not knowing otherwise where we should have bestowed them," &c., &c. This is also confirmed by the fact that several years afterwards (1662), when John Stowell conveyed Torre Abbey to Sir George Cary, "the Spanish Court" is mentioned as one of its appurtenances. There was no other

building in the neighbourhood so well adapted for the purposes of a temporary prison; it was strongly built, loopholed, and easily guarded; it is 124 feet in length and thirty feet wide, with gabled transepts. Tradition also avers that many of the prisoners were starved to death. Respecting this tragical story, there is direct testimony to the contrary.

The correspondence which took place respecting the disposition of the *Capitana* and her crew is deeply interesting, especially to the inhabitants of this district. The particulars given in the following pages are derived from the Record Office and other sources.

The men, ordnance, and stores, having been landed, Mr. Cary and Sir John Gilbert thus narrate to the Privy Council what they had done:—

"Our humble duties to your good lordships: Whereas there is one of the Spanish fleete brought into Torbay (as your honours have been heretofore advertized of), in which shipp there is almost foure hundred soldiers and mariners, all which for divers respects we have taken out of the shipp and brought them under safe guard unto the shore, so, twenty or thirty mariners only excepted, which we have left in the said shipp to be the better help to bring the said shipp into safe harbour at this present, through the occasion of Her Majesty's service great want of mariners of our own country,—if it may so stand with your lordshipps' pleasure, we desire to know your resolution what shall become of these people, our vowed enemies. The charge of keeping them is great, the peril greater, and the discontent over country greatest of all, that a nation so much disliking unto them should remain amongst them. To Her Majesty's commandment and your honours' direction we refer this action, and likewise ourselves, eftesones praying your lordshipps' resolved determination, we are thus bold, under your lordshipps' correction, to give them their maintenance, touching their sustenance of such provision as remaineth in the said shipp. There is one thing

more that giveth us occasion to desire your lordshipps' direction, for that the French King (as your honours well know) being entered into the holy league (as they term it) and vowed the extirpation of all others which are of the contrary, there are yet divers French boats and vessels that, under pretence of transporting of passengers and other things, come into our ports and creeks; we greatly suspect and are much afraid lest their coming be rather to give intelligences and understand Her Majesty's proceedings in these perilous times. And therefore do humbly pray your lordshipps' direction herein, whether we shall stay them, or otherwise give them leave in peaceable manner to depart. And so we humbly take our leave from further troubling your lordshipps.

"JOHN GILBERT.
"GEORGE CARY.

"From Torrebay, the 27th day of July, 1588."

Then follows a postscript:—

"Mr. Carew Rawley hath requested us to move your good lordshipps that it would please you to get his warrant for some six pieces of ordnance which are in the Spanish shipp to be placed in Her Majesty's fort or castle of Portland, for the better strength thereof, for that your honours (as he says) hath been heretofore informed of the want of artillery, which is to be required for the defence of the said castle.

"For Her Majesty's Affairs.

"To the Right Honourable our very good Lords, the Lords of Her Highness's most honourable Privy Council.

"Hast, hast, Post hast, hast thy lief."

The *Capitana* laid in Torbay nearly four weeks, until the heavy south-westerly gales were sufficiently moderated to allow of her being taken round to Dartmouth. During this time Mr. Cary and Sir John Gilbert appear to have laboured under a difficulty as to the disposal of the four hundred prisoners, a difficulty from which they were only

relieved by the instructions of the Privy Council. Occurring as these events did during the harvest season, the withdrawal of the train bands and volunteers from their ordinary agricultural work was felt very severely throughout the district. These, together with the manifest hostility of the villagers, made Sir John Gilbert and Mr. Cary anxious to get rid of the responsibility placed upon them by the Privy Council as speedily as possible; for on the 29th of August they wrote as follows:—

"To the Right Honourable and very good Lords, the Lords of Her Majesty's most honourable Privy Council.

"Our duties to your good Lordshipps most humbly remembered.

"Having received your honourable letter for the safe keeping and bestowing of the Spanish prisoners, and likewise the true and perfect inventory of the ordnance, munitions, and all other things whatsoever remaining in the shipp which was left in Torbay, and now in the haven of Dartmouth, and touching the said prisoners, being in number 397, whereof we sent to my Lord Lieutenant five of the chiefest of them, whom his Lordshipp hath committed to the town prison of Exeter, and we have put 226 in our Bridewell (amongst which all the mariners are placed, which are 61), besides younkers and boys; the rest, which are 166, for the ease of our country from the watching and guarding of them, and conveying of their provisions and victuals unto them, which was very burdensome unto our people in this time of harvest, we have therefore placed them aboard the Spanish shipp, to live upon such victuals as do remain in the said shipp, which is very little and bad, their fish unsavoury, and their bread full of worms, and of so small a quantity as will suffice them but a very small time.

"And touching the ordnance and other things in the said shipp, we have herewith under our hands, sent your lordshipps the true inventory, have left all the great ordnance aboard the shipp; but the small ordnance, lest it

should be embezzled away, we have caused the same to be had on shore.

"The wines, being 85 pipes, were so badly conditioned, that they made but 67 full pipes, which are put in safe cellarage, and the wine but indifferent, and many of them eager. Thus much premising of your lordshipps' good allowance, we have bestowed four pipes of the said wine, the one unto my Lord Edward Seymour, for cumbering his house with these Spanish prisoners until the shipp was cleared, not knowing otherwise where we should have bestowed them. The three other pipes we gave to three gentlemen that this month have continually lain aboard and attended to the said shipp. There are also sundry gentlemen and others which have demanded pipes of wine heretofore given unto them by the captains, and four of them (as they say) have already paid their money for the same, but yet we have made stay thereof until your lordshipps' pleasure be further known. We have also sent your lordshipps a book of the charges which hath been defrayed about the said shipp since she was left in Torbay, wind and weather not serving by the space of three weeks to bring her into safe harbourage; wherein we humbly pray your lordshipps' directions for the allowance of the said charges, and so resting to be commanded by your lordshipps what your further pleasures are concerning these Spanish prisoners, and the rest of these causes, we, ceasing from further troubling your Lordshipps, do most humbly take our leave.

"Your Lordshipps most humbly to command,

"JOHN GILBERT.

"Greenway, 29th August, 1588." "GEORGE CARY.

The book of charges which accompanied the above letter is very interesting, and gives minute details which clear up very much of what hitherto has been obscure. The Spanish ship was taken round to Dartmouth on the 28th of August, and the cost of this service and the maintenance of the prisoners are thus set out:—

"A brief of such charges as hath been bestowed about

the Spanish ship during the time she remained in Torbay, until the time of her unlading:

	£	s.	d.
Imprimis—The wages for 50 men, after the rate of 10s. the month for a man ..	25	0	0
Item—1,700 biscuits, at 8s. for the cwt.	5	19	0
Item—21 hogsheads of beer, at 8s. the hhd.	8	8	0
Beef, fish, and other necessaries	6	6	7
Eight boats to tow the ship about from Torbay to Dartmouth	1	6	0
Carpenter, to set up a jury mast in Torbay	0	8	4
A boatman for carrying ropes and other necessaries to set up the jury mast	0	16	0
20 lbs. of iron spokes	0	5	0
Two barks that landed the Spanish prisoners, and brought certain ordnance from the ship unto Dartmouth haven	8	0	0
Guarding and watching the Spaniards two days and nights, and one day at their landing	1	10	0
Eight boats, for carrying victuals sundry times to the Spaniards	2	2	0
Wood to dress the Spanish prisoners' meat on shore	1	0	0
Labourers for unloading the ordnance, wine, &c.	4	17	0
New hooping the wine	2	5	0
To Teddington, at his riding post to London to certify the arrival of the Spanish ship	2	0	0
To a man of my Lord Admiral, that came for the powder out of the Spaniard, and so passed by post to Portsmouth.	2	0	0
500 corr of fish for the Spanish prisoners	5	0	0
Summa totalis is..	£84	8	11

"JOHN GILBERT.
"GEORGE CARY."

When the *Capitana* was taken to Dartmouth harbour, she was anchored off the Careening ground. As the Spaniards landed, the people ripped open the belts which the captives wore, and despoiled them of what gold they possessed. What became of the *Capitana*, whether she was broken up or added to the Royal navy, is not known; the latter is rather improbable, seeing that her figure-head afterwards formed a prominent feature to the entrance of one of the building yards, and for more than a hundred

years afterwards there was secured to it the bell by which the men were summoned to work.

The inventory gives a complete account of the cannon on board, with the weight of each piece; also the anchors, sails, and stores generally:—

"The true inventory of all the ordnance, munitions, wines, and all other things whatsoever, aboard the Spanish ship in the haven of Dartmouth, taken the 28th day of August, 1588—

Brass Ordnance.

	lbs.		*lbs.*
1 Fowler	803	1 Ditto	2,507
1 Ditto	186	1 Cannon without number, 6 in. in height	
1 Great Basse	700	1 Cannon Pedro	3,032
1 Ditto	700	1 Culverling	4,736
1 Ditto	600	1 Culverling	3,200
1 Ditto	708	1 Basilico	4,840
1 Basse	385	1 Culverling	4,589
1 Ditto	382	1 Cannon Pedro	2,934
1 Ditto	388	1 Ditto	2,894
1 Ditto	390	1 Ditto	3,021
1 Ditto	210	1 Cannon	5,230
1 Fawronett	700	1 Cannon, 6 inches in height	
5 Chambers of brass			
1 Cannon Pedro	2,639		

Iron Ordnance.

10 Chambers		1 Minion	1,110
4 Forlocks		1 Culverling	2,300

All which great pieces of brass and iron are mounted on their carriages on shipboard

12 Carriages, without ordnance	1 Maintopsail, wanting the wing, with sundry ropes, some whole, some broken, with divers sorts of pulleys
2 Field carriages, without wheels	261 Iron hoops
4 Spare anchors	234 Empty casks
Cables and anchors which the ship rides by	5 Tons of lead
3 Cables ashore, two white and one tarred	Butts of wine taken on board, 85, which filled 67
2 Cadging [kedge] anchors	One great lantern, which was in the ship's stern
7 Sheerhooks for yards	
1 Gray of iron, without a chain	
1 Main couple	
1 Mizen sail	

Mr. Cary, on the 6th of October, furnished the Privy Council with further information respecting the disposal of the stores; and in this letter he states that one of the brass cannon had been transferred to the hired ship *Samaritan*, of Dartmouth, and that twelve brass guns had been put on board the ship *Roebuck*, commanded by Capt. Jacob Whiddon, and belonging to Sir Walter Raleigh.

About this time, to judge from the letters of Mr. Cary, a difference arose between him and his colleague respecting the disposal of the stores, wines, and prisoners. "Sir John Gilbert," he writes, "was unwilling to take any pains where no profit ariseth." It is averred that several of the Spaniards were compelled to work as slaves on Sir John's estate on the banks of the Dart. The Council, it appeared, had given instructions to Sir John Gilbert and Mr. Cary to cause a daily allowance of two-pence or three-pence to be paid to the men, undertaking that their charges should be reimbursed by the Treasury; but Sir John declined to obey this order, refusing to take upon himself any such responsibility, whereupon Mr. Cary at once consulted the authorities at Exeter, and, with their advice, he, in order to "relieve the misery of the Spanish prisoners, advanced the money himself, otherwise they must have perished." Mr. Cary, who is said to have slightly exaggerated the case as it stood between himself and his colleague, wrote on the 14th of October, 1588, as follows:—

"My humble duty to your good Lordships;

"Since the writing of my last letters unto your honours, I have been advertised that the Spanish prisoners remaining in our House of Correction near the city of Exeter, and which are in number 211, are in some distress for want of relief to sustain them. And, therefore, inasmuch as my associate refuseth to follow those directions it pleased your honours jointly to command us both in this service, the necessity of the case so requiring, I have, with advice of Sir Thomas Denys and of the Mayor of Exon and his brethren, taken order for this xiiij days to relieve their

misery in allowing to each of them j*d*. ob p' diem, and to some of them ij*d*. p' diem, and have disbursed the money out of my purse to make provision for victual at the best and cheapest hand, for otherwise they must have perished through hunger, and possibly thereby have bred some infection which mought be dangerous to our country. And, therefore, presuming of your Lordship's good allowance of my doings therein, do humbly desire your Lordship's directions to have some others to be joined on to me, for that I am loath to meddle in such a charge, without the assistance of some others that may always be an eye witness of my just dealings. And that it would please your Lordships to appoint from whence there might be some money had before hand, to provide their victual in good order, wherein a third part of the charge would be saved. For I dare assure your Lordships that ij*d*. p' diem, with some other allowances for fire and other necessaries, will suffice for their maintenance. There hath also heretofore been defrayed for their relief the sum of fifteen pounds for the which I have given my word to see it repaid; and therefore shall humbly desire your honours' allowance of the same. And touching your Lordships' letter of the last of September, concerning the Spanish goods, I see there is such havoc made thereof that I am ashamed to write what spoils I see. And though I have spoken and written to Sir John Gilbert to understand of his proceedings, and of what is become of all the wines I left in his custody, yet I can receive no direct answer from him; but this I know from others, that all the best wines are gone. It were well if it so stood with your Lordships' pleasures that we both might answer our doings before your honours. And so, humbly beseeching your Lordships to receive your directions in these causes as also concerning the Spanish prisoners, I rest from further troubling your honours.

"Your Lordships to be commanded,

"GEORGE CARY.

"Cockington, this xiiij of Oct., 1588."

Negociations had been going on during August and September between Don Pedro, who had been despatched to London, the Secretary of State (Lord Walsingham), and the Privy Council, but it was not till May, 1589, that a passport was granted by Elizabeth "for the safe coming of a certificated person to be sent by the Duke of Parma to England, to satisfy and pay the sum of money agreed upon for the ransom of the Spanish prisoners."

The humanity and kindness of heart shewn by Mr. George Cary towards the unhappy prisoners certainly disprove the story that the greater portion of them were starved to death in the Barn. In the letter it is admitted that several had already died, no doubt from wounds, privation, and exposure. A gentleman who had shown himself so extremely solicitous for the welfare of the Spaniards when they were lodged in the county gaol, would be doubly so when they were in his own immediate charge. There is no question that the feeling of the people against the prisoners was intensely bitter. It has been related, according to tradition, that a farmer, out of sympathy, surreptitiously conveyed food to some of them, and being discovered, the infuriated people hung him to a tree near at hand.* Another tradition, evidently referring to three distinct events, but confusedly woven into one, is recorded in a letter by the late Mr. Swete, who visited Tor Abbey about 1778. He says, "According to the traditions of the country, this barn at one time served as a repository for other matters than the produce of the harvest; a chaff-cutter therein employed told me that it was once nearly filled with the dead bodies of Spaniards, who, having landed with an intent of plundering the Abbey, were kept on shore by means of an English fleet that unexpectedly entered the Bay, and flying for refuge to this barn, were there shut up and starved to death. How much of a marvellous exaggeration may have contributed to the em-

* Communicated to the writer by the late Mr. John Rossiter, one of the Town Commissioners.

bellishment of this strange story I cannot ascertain; but it should appear that the place had suffered some hostile attack from some cannon balls having been found lodged in the garden walls which intervened between the Abbey and the sea. This I learned from Mr. Cary himself, who, moreover, informed me that in the area before the barn, human skulls and bones have been frequently dug up, which circumstance, if this spot should not be found to have been the cemetery of the Convent, seems to give some colour at least to a part of the transaction." There is also another story that down Cole's Lane, a narrow, steep road between Upton and St. Mary-Church, "the blood of the Spaniards ran like water." How or on what occasion this occurred it is difficult to ascertain; but, if it did happen, it was probably when the prisoners were being conveyed from Torre Abbey to Exeter, and that an attempted escape was sanguinarily suppressed. There seems some slight colouring for this; because, if Mr. Cary's request for the assistance of Mr. Fulford's train band of one hundred and fifty men, as stated in a previous page, was rejected, the safe conduct of nearly three hundred prisoners was left to a mere handful of demi-lances; and nothing is more probable than, seeing the weakness of their escort, and what favourable opportunities the narrow and steep Devonshire lanes afforded, that an attempt was made by the prisoners to recover their freedom.

The village gossips affirm that the spirits of the slaughtered Spaniards visit the spot at those hours when it is supposed such visitants walk the earth; and they add that a Spanish lady, whose devoted attachment to an officer of the expedition induced her to don male attire in order to join the Armada, shrouded in a gracefully flowing mantilla, may also at times be seen gliding along the lane. The spectre, however, very discreetly retires on the approach of a wayfarer.

CHAPTER THE SEVENTH.

Don Pedro's Account of his helpless condition, his Desertion by the Duke de Sidonia, and his Surrender to Sir Francis Drake.—A Narration of the Capture of the Capitana by John Marsh, John Fisher, and Richard Janson.—A Dispute between the Captors.—The Missing Treasure.—The Rage of Frobisher.—Another Spanish Prize near Salcombe.—The St. Peter the Great—Mr. Cary's Account of her.—His Difficulties.—Plundering by the Peasantry.—A Government Enquiry.—Restoration of some of the Plunder.



ESPECTING the manner in which the *Capitana* was captured there are very clear and accurate records, both on the side of the Spaniards and on the part of her captors. Don Pedro, in a letter to the King of Spain, attributes his misfortune to the Duke of Sidonia, who deserted him in his hour of need; and, curiously enough, John Fisher, John Marsh, and Richard Janson, of the *Margaret and John*, in a letter to the Council, lay claim to some credit for having contributed to the taking of the prize, and urge that they were entitled to a share.

Don Pedro, writing to Philip the Second, some time in August (a translation of the letter was submitted to the Privy Council the same month), says :—

"The 30th of the last month I acquainted your Majesty with the proceedings of your fleet until that time. Now, I will write what hath since happened unto me.

"The same day the Duke called to Council, and being within ten or twelve leagues of Plymouth, when, by the report of a fisherman whom we took, he had understanding

that the English fleet was at anchor. It was resolved that we should make to the mouth of the Sound and set upon them if that might be done with advantage, or otherwise keep our course directly to Dunkirk, without losing of any time. Within two hours after, their fleet was discovered by one of my ships, four leagues off to leeward of ours. I acquainted the Duke without presently desiring to know what he thought fit to be done. Therefore he neither took resolution nor made me answer, but, hoisting sail, spent all that day and night bearing but little sail, and by that means gave the enemy time to get the wind of us by next morning, who presently set upon our rearward, where Juan Martinez de Recalde and I did sail with the shipping under our charge. Our ordnance played so long a while on both sides without coming to hand strokes, there was little harm done, because the ship was far off. When we had ended, I sent a pinnace unto Juan Martinez de Recalde to know whether he had received any harm. His answer was that his galleon had been sore beat, and that his foremast was hurt with a great shot, praying me that I would come to relieve him, for that otherwise he should not be able to abide any man's ship if it were offered. The same day, whereupon, in making towards him with my ship, according to his desire, it happened that another Biscayne ship of his company was there so in the way, as I could neither pass by nor bear round, as the rudder fell foul in such sort with the prow of mine, as she brake her spritsail and crossyard, by reason of which accident and for want of sail my ship was not able to steer readily. It happened that before I could repair that hurt, another ship fell foul with her in the same manner, and brake her bowsprit, halyards, and fowroose, whereupon, finding myself in so ill a case, I presently sent word thereof to the Duke, to the end that he might stay for me, until I had put on another fowroose, which I carried spare, and put myself in order.

"In the meanwhile I got to the fleet as well as I could,

and being to leeward of them struck the crossyard of my foremast and the rest of my sail, to repair my hurt the better, hoping that the Duke would have done according to my request.

"While I was in this case the sea did rise in such sort that my ship having struck sail, and wanting her halyard at the foremast, being withall but badly built, did work so extremely, as shortly after, and before it could be remedied, her foremast brake close by the hatches, and fell upon the mayne mast, so as it was impossible to repair that part but in some good space of time.

"I did again send word thereof several times to the Duke, and discharged three or four great pieces, to the end that all the fleet might know what distress I was in, praying him either to appoint some ship or galleas to tow me ahead, and to advise me what other course I should take. Nevertheless, although he was near enough to me, and seeing in what case I was, and might easily have relieved me, yet he would not relieve me, but even, as that if we had not been your Majesty's subjects, nor employed in your service, discharged a piece to call the fleet together, and followed his course, leaving me comfortless in the sight of the whole fleet, the enemy being but a quarter of a league from me, which arrived upon the closing of the day, and although some ships set upon me, resisted them and defended myself from them all that night, till the next day, hoping still that the Duke would send me some relief, and had used so great inhumanity and unthankfulness towards me, far greater I think there was never heard of amongst men. The next day, finding myself in so bad a case, void of all hope to be relieved from ships of our fleet, and beset with the enemy, and Sir Francis Drake, admiral to the enemy's fleet, bearing towards me with his ship, whence there came a message that I should yield myself upon a summons of good usage, I went aboard him on his word, to take up the conditions of yielding, wherein the best construction that could be

taken was the safety of our lives and courteous entertainment, whereof he gave us his hand and word of a gentleman, and promised that he would use us better than many others that were come to his hands, and would be a means that the Queen would also do the like, whereupon, finding that this was our last and best remedy, I thought good to accept of his offer.

"The next day he brought me to see the General, by whom I was courteously received, seeming to be sorry that the Duke had used me so harshly, and confirming the same promise that Sir Francis Drake had made to me.

"After ten days' space that I had been in his company, he sent me to London, and with me the Captain of Footmen, Don Alonso de Cayes, and Don Vasco de Mendoca, of de Sylua, of Xerex de los Cavalleres, who had charge of the companies that were landed in the place, and the Queen at his request sent us four leagues up to a gentleman's house, called Richard Drake, that is his kinsman, where we receive the best usage and entertaining that may be.

"About forty of the better sort beside, were bestowed in divers men's houses in London; the rest, together with the ship, were carried to Plymouth. [Torquay and Dartmouth.]

"I have no other matter to impart unto your Majesty until the return of Sir Francis Drake, who is yet at sea, for then will be some resolution taken what shall become of us. This Captain do humbly kiss your Majesty's feet, and we all beseech your Majesty that you will please to remember us, and to comfort us with your friendly letter.

"August, 1588."

It appears that there was a dispute as to who were the real captors of the Spanish ship, according to the following letter addressed to the Privy Council:—

"Whereas, sundry reports have been spread concerning the taking of the ship wherein Don Pedro de Valdez was captain, and that your lordships' suppliants, John Fisher,

John Nash, and Richard Janson, commanders of the *Margaret and John*, of London, have been advertized that some others besides Sir Francis (to whom the credit and honour of that prize doth most condignly appertain) have made challenge and enjoyed a good portion of the spoil thereof; We have thought good to set down unto your honours in a few articles, the services done by us and our said ship, in that behalf, humbly beseeching your lordships that the said prize and prisoners are thought fit to be reported amongst such as mere actors for her apprehension, or that in your honours' wisdom it be thought expedient that the forwardness of the willing be something considered before such as never gave any attempt for the taking of her.

"That in such a case it may please your lordships to vouchsafe to peruse our allegations, containing nothing but the truth of our own actions, and do most dutifully submit ourselves to such considerations as to your lordships' wisdom shall seem expedient, whom Almighty God long bless with health and earnest felicity.

"1st. Your lordships' suppliants beholding upon Sunday, the 20th July, about five o'clock in the afternoon (upon which day we had our first encounter with the Spaniards), the opportunity that God had offered into our hands by breaking the masts of Don Pedro his ship, the which all the English navy beheld as well as we, we only, with our ship the *Margaret and John*, of London, as all the fleet can testify have rimer with the ship, being accomplished neither with ship, pinnace, or boat, of all our fleet.

"2nd. At our approaching to the said ship, we found left by her, for her safeguard, a great galleon, a galleas, and a pinnace, with orders either to help her regain her masts, and so follow the Spanish Armada gone before, or else bring away the men, treasure, and munitions thereof, and to fire or sink the ship, all which then, upon the sudden approach of our ship only, forsook Don Pedro, leaving him to the mercy of the sea.

"3rd. That that present evening had we not followed the opportunity, but delayed the same until the morning following, as others did, then had the ship's beam been repaired, and carried away, or else the men, treasure, and other things of value, taken out by such as were appointed to attend on her, and so all of us frustrated of the prize, and this much hath Don Pedro himself confessed, condemning and exclaiming much upon those that were left for his comfort, in that they forsook him upon the coming of our small ship.

"4th. About nine of the clock, the same evening, we came hard under the sides of the ship of Don Pedro, which by reason of her greatness and the sea being very much, we could not lay aboard without spoiling our own ship; and, therefore, seeing not one man showing himself, nor any light appearing in her, we imagined that most of the people had been taken out, and to try whether any were aboard or not, we discharged twenty-five or thirty muskets into her laye work at one volley, with arrows and bullets, and presently they gave us two great shot, whereupon we let fly our broadside through her, doing them some hurt as themselves have and can testify.

"5th. After this we cast about our ship, and kept ourselves close by the Spaniard until midnight, sometimes hearing a voice in Spanish calling us, but the wind being very great, and we in the weather [on the weather side], the word was carried away, that we could not well understand that, but were persuaded by our mariners to be the voice of one swimming in the sea, whereupon we put off our ship's boat, with eight oars, to seek, call, or to take them up, but found nobody.

"6th. About midnight, my Lord Admiral being about a league from us, and lying a-full, made sail after the whole fleet of the enemy, which when we perceived, fearing his lordship's displeasure that we should stay behind the fleet, we made all the sail we could, and followed my Lord to overtake him; and the next morning betimes, we went aboard

the *Ark*, and certified his Lordship in what distressed state we had left the ship—our enemy—praying leave that we might be permitted to return to finish our attempt, or that his Lordship would send a pinnace to Dartmouth or Plymouth, that some shipping might be sent forth to fetch her in, for that she could not possibly escape, if she were assaulted and fought for.

"7th. During this speech with my Lord Admiral came up one Captain Selye, in a pinnace, certifying his Lordship that Sir Francis Drake, staying behind the fleet all night, had taken the said ship of Don Pedro de Valdez, with 460 men in her, full of artillery, munitions, and some treasure. Therefore, if any do challenge or expect any recompense for service done against the said ship (except Sir Francis Drake, to whom she was wholly yielded) we hope that we cannot be in equity excluded, in that we drove away the two ships over night, which otherwise before the morning might have carried all away. Referring the examination of the truth unto your honours, and the reward to your lordships' ordering, whom the Lord long continue in health and felicity," &c., &c.

On board Don Pedro's ship, the *Capitana*, there was stated to be a considerable amount of treasure, but it disappeared in some inscrutable way. It is said that there were 15,000 ducats in gold in the ship, which the sailors of Sir Francis Drake "shared merrily between them." When questioned about the transaction, Sir Francis admitted that he had taken three thousand pistoles in coin, but alleged as a reason for his plunder, that "he had not three pounds left in the world." Frobisher and Hawkins declared that they were entitled to a share of the spoil. Frobisher, writing of Drake, said, "He thinketh to cozen us of our share of the 15,000 ducats, but we will have our share, or I will make him spend the best blood in his belly, for he hath done enough of these cozening tricks already." Happily, the quarrel went no further than words.

From the imputations and charges made by Mr. Cary, and from the fact of Mr. Anthony Ashley, the Clerk of the Privy Council, having been sent down to institute inquiries respecting the missing stores, there is no question but that there were very many persons in this neighbourhood who profited by the capture of the *Capitana*.

Until the classification of the documents in the State Paper Record Office within the last few years, it was generally believed that the ship brought into Torbay was the *St. Peter the Great*. It is now established beyond question that her name was the *Capitana*. The error appears to have arisen from the circumstance that another Spanish ship was wrecked in this neighbourhood, namely, in Hope Bay, a short distance to the westward of Start Point. She was plundered by the country people before measures could be taken for the safety of the men and the preservation of the stores. The *St. Peter the Great* was one of the hospital ships appointed to accompany the Armada, and was over five hundred tons burthen. She escaped with the remnant of the Spanish fleet, made the wearisome and perilous circuit of the British Isles, and, in the month of October, was driven up Channel by tempestuous gales, and went on shore on the rocks adjoining the grounds of Sir William Courtenay. On board were thirty seamen, one hundred soldiers, and fifty persons belonging to the medical staff. Of these, forty were drowned in endeavouring to reach the land, and the rest were saved.

The first intimation of the wreck was given by George, Earl of Cumberland, to Secretary Walsingham, in a letter written from "Malbrowe, Devon, October 29th, 1588,"* in which he says:—

"Being at Plymouth to water, I heard of a hulk beaten in by foul weather by Hope, a town eighteen miles from thence; she was one of the Spanish fleet, and it was reported that the Duke was in her, and great store of treasure,

* In the Duke of Devonshire's Collection of MSS. at Bolton Abbey.

wherefore I rode thither with Mr. Cary and Mr. Harris, who then were with me, to know the truth of it, when we found no such thing as was reported of the Duke, but a ship such and so furnished as by examination taken by us and sent herewith, you may perceive. Mr. Cary stayeth at the place to keep it from the spoiling of the countrymen, till he hear your further direction; thus much they have entreated me to make known to you, and thus, in haste, I commit you to God."

We have ample particulars of this vessel in a letter from Mr. George Cary to the Privy Council, dated the 5th of November, in which he also gives further information respecting Don Pedro's ship. He writes:—

"My humble duty to your good lordships. Forthwith, upon the receipt of your honours' letters of the 21st of the last month, I rode presently to Plymouth, where, understanding that the *Roebuck* being there then in harbour, and ready as they said with the next good wind to depart, I signified unto the Mayor of the town of Plymouth and the officers there, and likewise to Jacob Whiddon, captain of the said *Roebuck*, what your lordships' pleasure was, that such brass pieces that were taken out of the Spanish carrick whereof Don Pedro had charge, should be laid on shore, and put in safe keeping to Her Majesty's use. And for the better satisfying of them for that point, did show unto them your honours' warrant, which they promised to obey and perform. The said Jacob Whiddon confesseth the having but of ten brass pieces, whereof he sayeth he laid one on shore at Portland. I did appoint Mr. William Hawkyns to receive those other nine pieces, and likewise the two brass pieces in Fawne's pinnace, and keep them to Her Highness, until your lordships' pleasure were further known. And during my abode there, having understanding that one of the Spanish fleet was cast ashore at a place called Hoope, near Salce [Salcombe] and the great pilferings and spoils that the country people made, I rode thither and took order for the restoring and re-having

again of all such things as either by search or inquiry I could find out, and have put the same in inventory, and took order for the orderly saving of the rest, as the weather would give leave to have the same on land, appointing two head constables to attend that service, and they and others to keep several inventories. The ship is a hulk, and called *St. Peter the Great*, one of those two ships which were appointed for the hospital to the Holy Navy; she is in burthen as they say 550 tons, but I think not so much. The ship is not to be recovered; she lieth on a rock, and is full of water to her upper decks. They confess that there were put into her at her coming out of Spain, thirty mariners, one hundred soldiers, and fifty appertaining to the hospital. There are now remaining about a hundred and forty or thereabouts. There were put into her much drugs and poticary stuff, as came to 6,000 ducats, of which I think there will come little good of the same, being in the water almost. Thus serveth the weather such as none could get aboard. There hath been some plate and certain ducats rifled and spoiled at their first landing, both from their persons as out of their chests. The ship I think will prove of no great value. The ordnance is all iron and no brass, their ground tackle all spent, save only one new cable. There are no men of account in the ship, soldiers and such as have risen by service, and bestowed all their wealth in this action. I have severed the captain and chiefest of them to the number of twenty persons from the rest; eight of them I left to the charge of Sir William Courtenay, and two of them, the one being the poticary, the other the surgeon, I took to myself; the others are put in safe keeping and are guarded day and night, and have appointed one penny per day to every of them, to make provision for their sustenance until your lordships' pleasure were further known, which I humbly desire may be with some speed, for that the charge of them and those to Bridewell grow somewhat heavy unto me to disburse the money myself, for money is not to be received for the wines, Sir John

Gilbert having disposed already of all the best; the rest through ill-usage in this country will yield but little, nor good for anything as I think, save only to make *aqua vite* of or such-like. I would humbly desire the gift of those two Spaniards which I have, not for my profit, but to make trial what skill is in them. I am given to understand that there is remaining fourteen barrels of powder in the *Samaritan*, of such as I caused to be taken out of the Spanish carrick, and appointed to have been sent and delivered unto my lord Admiral, in the late encounter according to my lord's direction; but the same was never delivered, and doth yet remain in the *Samaritan* as I am informed; and so I humbly take my leave.

"Cockington, this 5th of March, 1588.

"Upon the finishing of my letter, I received a letter from the Mayor of Plymouth and other officers there, which I send herein enclosed unto your honours.

"Your Honours' always to be commanded,

"GEORGE CARY."

In pursuance of the representations of Mr. Cary, the Privy Council determined to institute an enquiry as to how the stores had been disposed of, and with that view despatched Mr. Anthony Ashley to the West. That gentleman proceeded at once to the residence of Sir William Courtenay, and there prepared an inventory of the stores salved from the *St. Peter the Great*. Respecting the officers and crew, he writes:—

"Ten or twelve of the best sort are placed at a town called Kingsbridge, where order is taken for the provision of their wants, and accounts kept of their expenses. The rest, until your lordships' pleasure be further known, are remaining together in one house, whither they were first committed, where they are safe kept and provided of necessary food;" adding, "I hope to discover things of great value which belonged to Don Pedro's ship, and which were stolen."

Concerning the stores of the *St. Peter the Great*, Mr. Ashley writes:—

"By late examination taken of the Spaniards, I find that certain bezor stones and other simples were purloined out of the ship, of which bezor stones I hope to recover the most of them. I have been bold to stay this messenger hitherto, thinking I should have been able to have advertized some certainties of them, but must now leave the same to my return, which shall be as speedily as I may."

This letter is accompanied by a list of the prisoners, together with the sums offered for their ransom, signed by Sir John Gilbert, George Cary, Anthony Ashley, and Thomas Harris. In a note the writer adds that eight or nine men are sick, three had died since their landing, and ten of the prisoners had been saved from a burning Spanish ship at Weymouth.

CHAPTER THE EIGHTH.

Honours conferred on Mr. Cary.—The Cary Family.—Possessions of Sir George Cary.—Political Reverses.—Handiwork of the Parliamentarians.—Torre Abbey Branch of the Carys.—Description of the Ruins of the Abbey.—The Chancel Arch.—Dimensions of the Monastic Church.—The Refectory used as a Chapel.—Finding of old Stone Coffins.—The Avenues.—When Planted.—The Modern Mansion.—The Pictures.—The Restoration.—Discovery of a Secret Crypt.—St. Michael's Votive Chapel.—Description and Uses.—Ilsham Grange.—The Retreat at Upton.



OR the public services recounted in the last chapter, Mr. George Cary was very tardily rewarded with the honour of knighthood; and, in 1598, was commanded by her Majesty to proceed to Ireland with the Earl of Essex, as Treasurer at War.*

These honours were deservedly bestowed. And perhaps the present will be the best place to introduce a very brief account of the Cary family. It is one of the few English families now remaining that can trace its descent without interruption to Anglo-Saxon times. Their ancestor Otho was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, a powerful English baron, and one branch of the family has since the time of Henry V. been located in this neighbourhood. The Carys in the reign of Elizabeth embraced several titles of nobility in the family. The head of that branch of the Cary family which was described as of Cockington, was George Cary, a ward of Walsingham's. The Cockington

* A copy of the instructions to the Treasurer is in the possession of Mr. Wynn, of Peniarth, Merioneth.

estate was purchased by Sir John de Cary, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, in the reign of Richard II. Sir John, with four other judges, was banished to Ireland, for being too subservient to the will of that monarch.* The most illustrious member of the family was undoubtedly Sir George Cary. Sir George was married twice; first, to Wilmot, daughter of John Giffard, of Yeo, and the divorced wife of John Bury, of Collaton, through whom he acquired extensive additions to his family estates in North Devon; secondly, to Lettice, daughter of Robert Lord Rich, afterwards Earl of Warwick, who survived him. Sir George Cary had many relations and friends at Court. A kinswoman of his, Katharine Cary, married the Earl of Nottingham, and her sister was married to Lord Scroop. This Katharine Cary was the Countess of Nottingham who is associated with the celebrated Essex ring romance, which so embittered the last days of Queen Elizabeth. †

Sir George Cary died 16th February, 1617,‡ at Cockington Court; he had no direct descendant, his nearest kin being a nephew, George Cary. His rent roll must have been one of the largest in Devonshire, for by a deed dated 20th October, 7 Jas. I., he conveyed to his adopted heir and nephew, George Cary, the manors of Cockington and Chelston, Mary-Church, Coffinswell, Northlew, Ashwater, Bradford, Abbotsham, Meeth, Crediton, Galliard, Goodley, Northam, Frithelstock, and Feniton, the rectory of Tormohun and Cockington, and the advowsons of Ashwater, Meeth, Goodley, and Feniton, and also all his manors and

* From the Carys of Cockington the Barons of Hunsdon as also the families of the Earls of Dover and Monmouth were descended.

† As one of the events of the Elizabethan era associated in an indirect manner with this district, it may be mentioned that the first venture of the East India Company finally started from Torbay on the 2nd of May, 1601, after having been delayed in the Channel by contrary winds. There were five vessels, measuring collectively 1,330 tons, of the value of £27,000. The cargoes were made up of bullion and merchandise, to the additional value of £58,000.

‡ Prince states that Sir George Cary died in 1615, but according to Mr. R. Dymond, the Court Rolls prove him to have been living between November, 1616, and April, 1617.

lands in the parishes, villages, towns, &c., of Stantor, Paignton, Marldon, Whilborough, Kingscarswell, Dolton, Hookway, Yea, Trew St. James (Taunton), Woolfardisworthy, Yeadcome, Puddington, East Worlington, South Emlett, St. Mary Doun, Holleigh, Buckland Brewer, Cockmaton, Bideford, Parkham, Alwington, Littleham, Morthoe, Parnacott, Pyworthy, Hethford, Eastcott, Blackgrove, Mounhouse, Lifton, Tophill, Radford, Overlarkworthy, Bridgewotton, Salterton, Goveshayer, Woodbury, Sowton al's Clist, Fomizon, and Honiton's Clist, in county of Devon, the manors of Stockland, county Dorset, and a messuage, &c., in Wellington, county Somerset.* The heir, George Cary, married a daughter of the now ducal house of Somerset, but as he had displayed extravagance which excited his uncle's misgivings, the latter caused the deed to be revoked, and the manors of Cockington and St. Mary-Church only were bequeathed to him. At his death, in 1643, this George Cary left the Cockington estate to his eldest son and heir, Sir Henry Cary. This gentleman was very unfortunate. He raised a regiment in defence of the Monarchy, and was knighted by Charles I. at Crediton, in July, 1644. When, in 1645, Dartmouth was taken by General Fairfax, who received material support from the fleet of Admiral Batten, stationed in Torbay, Sir Henry Cary was compelled to surrender the fort of Kingswear, of which he was in command. He was permitted to retire on giving an undertaking not to appear again in arms against the Parliament; a heavy fine was imposed upon him, and on the fall of the Monarchy, he was obliged to resign his estate of Cockington and emigrate to America.† Fairfax's troopers do not appear to have extended their forays into Tormohun or St. Mary-Church; at least there are no traces of the destructive proclivities with which they are generally credited, for the few old brasses and monuments remain intact. Not so with the neighbouring parish churches of Berry Pomeroy

* Mr. R. Dymond, of Exeter, in *Herald and Genealogist*, vol. iv.
† Mr. R. Dymond's Paper on *The Pedigree of the Cary Family.*

and Paignton. In the former the brasses were wrenched from their fastenings, and in the latter an exquisitely-carved chantry was ruthlessly mutilated; indeed it is said that the top of the granite cross in the churchyard was destroyed by these inconoclasts.* It is not improbable that these spoils were effected under colour of the commissions issued by Elizabeth and Cromwell.

The Torre Abbey branch of the family of the Carys descends from the favourite nephew and secretary of the Lord Deputy, namely, Sir Edward Cary, of Stantor, a manor adjoining Cockington. Being a Romanist, he was much persecuted by the Government, in whose pay spies were maintained, both in this parish and St. Mary-Church. He died in 1654, at the age of eighty. Eight years after this, his son, Sir George Cary, of New Parke, Hants, purchased Torre Abbey from John Stowell, and in the possession of his descendants it has since remained. This gentleman was a Royalist, and was knighted by Charles I. at Greenwich, in 1632. Of the part he took in the civil war, very little is known; he was, however, in 1645 appointed one of the Commissioners to treat with Fairfax for the surrender of Exeter. His death occurred in 1678, just ten years before the landing of William of Orange in Torbay.

Having thus given a brief account of the Cary family, it may not be inappropriate to introduce here a description of the ruins of the religious house and the modern mansion. The demolition of the Abbey followed closely upon the dispersion of its inmates, and very little now remains of the once famous church. That little, however, bears eloquent testimony to the massiveness, grandeur, and extent, of the edifice. The most perfect relic, perhaps, is the entrance to the Chapter House, consisting of a central archway, with a smaller one on each side. The semi-circular arches are finely chiselled, and the Purbeck columns are surmounted by richly-moulded capitals. Near by, may be

* See Appendix.

seen the prostrate arch of the chancel and fragments of the columns that once supported the vaulted roof and aisles. Close at hand is a portion of the Church tower, with its stone staircase. The ruins are densely clothed with ivy, and the whole area occupied by the church is overgrown with the laurel, the cypress, and the ilex oak. Few as they are, the remains are preserved with religious care, and being situated at the rear of the house, can only be viewed by the favour of the owner. Upon the prostrate arch of the chancel is a tablet on which the following lines by the Rev. Joseph Reeve are inscribed :—

Though hallowed mitres glitter here no more,
The friendly Abbey still adorns the shore ;
Here meek religion's ancient temple rose,
How great, how fall'n, the mournful ruin shows,—
Of sacrilege, behold, what heaps appear !
Nor blush to drop the tributary tear.
Here stood the font—here, on high columns rais'd,
The dome extended—there, the altar blaz'd ;
The shatter'd aisles, with clust'ring ivy hung,
The yawning arch in rude confusion flung ;
Sad striking remnants of a former age,
To pity now might move the spoiler's rage.
Lo, sunk to rest, the wearied vot'ry sleeps,
While o'er his urn the gloomy cypress weeps ;
Here silent pause, here draw the pensive sigh,
Here musing learn to live, here learn to die !

It is inferred from an examination of the ground that the choir of the church was about 72 feet by 30 feet, and the transept 96 feet, the whole length of the fabric, including the lady chapel, measuring about 200 feet.*

Of the monastery itself, possibly from the fact that it could be easily adapted to the purposes of an ordinary dwelling, the remains are more complete. The cells on the basement appear to be as perfect now as when occupied by their original tenants ; the tower is intact, and at its base on the right hand side of the entrance is the beautifully

* Blewitt's *Panorama of Torquay*, p. 213, ed. 1832.



Drawn on Stone by G. Bedford. Directory Co., Lith.

THE NORMAN GATEWAY AND TOWER.

Hereford or Tonquay.

moulded pointed arch portal from whence the doles of provisions were dispensed to the poor. One of the Norman gateways still defies the assaults of time. It has two groined entrances, a crenellated parapet, and octagonal towers. This is the last of the three gateways mentioned by Leland. The second fell through neglect during the latter portion of the last century. Beneath the vaultings of the archway may be seen the following arms:—of the Abbey, carved in the red sandstone,—gules, a chevron between three crosiers; of Briwere, gules, two bends undy, or; of Mohun, or, a cross engruiled sable, and an eagle displayed. The massive iron hooks on which the folding gates hung are still in the walls. Adjoining is the venerable grange,with its buttresses and loopholes. The refectory, to the north of the tower, was converted in 1779 from a laundry into a chapel, and was used for the purposes of divine worship by the Roman Catholics of the neighbourhood up to 1854, when the Church of the Assumption was opened. The present residence was commenced in the time of the Ridgeways. Westcote, in his History of Devon, says, "Ridgeway re-edified the almost decayed cells to a new and better form. The Abbey stands both pleasantly and commodiously both for sea and land, having Torwood, a fair and large demesne belonging to it, and a bay or peer at the seaside."

The Rev. Mr. MacEnery, the resident priest at the Abbey, caused a portion of the ground among the ruins to be turned up in May, 1825, when two stone coffins and a quantity of tesselated pavement were brought to light. It has been conjectured that the former contained the remains of Lord Briwere, the founder of the Abbey, and William de Bokeland, one of its most munificent patrons, as it is well known that many of its principal benefactors were here interred. In trenching the gardens adjoining the ruins, immense quantities of bones and perfect skeletons were exhumed in an excellent state of preservation, shewing that that portion had been the burying ground. It is re-

corded as a notable fact that the teeth were beautifully white and regular; also that the skeletons indicated considerable size and power. Adjoining the Mill-garden was a fish-pond, in front of the mansion. This, however, was filled up about 1770, with the ruins of the church and cloisters. The material employed in the erection of the Abbey and its boundary walls is of various kinds; the red sandstone taken from the hill behind (the quarry was filled up in 1876), limestone from the cliffs, and limestone boulders and stones, which, from their water-worn appearance, were collected from the water-courses and beaches; the conglomerate of the neighbourhood; granite from Dartmoor, and a thick slatey stone from the vicinity of the point opposite the Thatcher Rock. The stone was ripped in the quarries by means of wedges, for the practice of dislodging stone by the aid of gunpowder, or "shooting the rocks," as the process is locally known, is comparatively modern.

There is a tradition that the monks were enabled to communicate with Compton Castle by a subterranean passage. It is a curious fact that a sub-way does exist, but not in the direction indicated. There is an underground channel about a hundred feet in length and five feet by four in diameter in front of the present mansion. It commences a hundred yards from the house, and terminates in a clump of trees. Evidently it had at one time a direct communication with the Abbey.

The fine avenues at the rear of the Abbey are, comparatively speaking, of modern date; plans of the manor drawn less than two hundred years ago do not show them; but from the number of concentric rings counted by Mr. P. Q. Karkeek in the cross-section of one of the lime-trees which were felled in 1876, it would appear that they were planted less than a hundred years ago.* The Avenues are three in number, and are planted in the form

* Mr. John Morgan, nurseryman, now long past seventy years of age, states that the north-east avenue was planted by his grandfather.



Drawn on Stone by P. Bedford. Directory Co., Lith.

ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPTER HOUSE.

Pershore or Tewkesbury.

of a quadrant, radiating from the entrance to the Abbey. One extends in the direction of the north, and is about a quarter of a mile in length, through which the route to Paignton and the Railway Station is diverted; this consists of elms, chestnuts, and limes: another runs due east, and is composed alternately of limes and chestnuts: the centre avenue, in the direction of north-east, consists wholly of lime trees, of which there were, up to within the last few years, seventy-four pairs; two of these have been felled for the purpose of widening the Belgrave Road. The largest of these measured 9ft. 6in. in circumference, and reached to a height of 90ft.* The trunks of these lime trees are remarkably quartered, and have a picturesque appearance; they are strikingly symmetrical in the tracery of their branch architecture, and are probably unsurpassed by any in England. On the occasion of great rejoicings the avenues were illuminated, and the village musicians were employed by the owner of the Abbey to play on an elevated spot by the side of the north-east avenue, now taken up by the last house in the Belgrave Road.

The residence is comparatively modern, and was constructed chiefly with the remains of the monastery. It consists of a centre and two wings, the western being connected with the only remaining old gateway. Several years ago it contained some fine paintings. Among these were "Apollo playing to Juno," by Callcott; "Aurora," by Phillips; "Children overtaken by a Storm," and "A Peasant Boy and Girl," by Howard; the "Descent of Icarus," the "Distressed Father," "Lavinia," and a "Night Scene," by Thompson; "Juno feeding an Eagle," by Sir William Beecher; and a full-length figure, by Opie. Some extensive alterations in the house having been contemplated, a sale took place at the Abbey in June, 1858, lasting a week; the paintings and curiosities selected for sale realised between £800 and £900. Thompson's "Fall of Icarus," a scene from the "Deserted Village,"

* These dimensions were taken by Mr. H. Curtis, of the Devon Rosery.

and "Orpheus and Eurydice," were purchased by Mr. T. Webb for £84;* West's "Samuel Prophesying" made £50; a landscape and pastoral figure by Callcott, £50; two paintings, a landscape and ruins, by Dietrich, £78 15*s.*; "Venus and Bacchus," by Poussin, £14; "The Children of Charles I.," after Vandyke, £15 5*s.*; a Dresden dinner set, £36 15*s.*; a pair of handsome Indian jars, £28; and five groups of ancient carvings, representing scenes in the life of our Saviour, £19.

In 1876 the mansion was restored, under the direction of Mr. Appleton, who made a singular discovery among the cells on the basement floor.†

There is a low doorway to the south of the tower, the passage from which leads through a double vaulted chamber having doorways on either hand—those on the left being ancient, and those on the right modern. The former led to a crypt under what was once the refectory. On the other side of the vaulted chamber there is another crypt of greater pretensions, and which up to the time of the work of renovation being commenced was blocked up with cross-walls; these, on being removed, displayed some beautifully worked columns and spacious chambers; the caps of the columns were of Purbeck stone, and the shafts and bases of Beer stone; one of the windows had a circular head, the others were square-headed. In the principal room was seen a door which led to an apartment, in the corner of which were the remains of a stone circular newelled staircase; where it led could not be known, as the top was boarded over. Mr. Appleton says it is difficult to say what this crypt was intended for, as there were no indications of an altar or piscina, "otherwise one might have surmised that it was originally a chapel; but the care with which the columns and mouldings have been worked indicate it to have been a place of importance."

* These pictures now adorn the staircase of the Imperial Hotel.

† Transactions Devonshire Association, vol. vi., pp. 497-9.

A brief notice may, perhaps, be given here of two other buildings which were unquestionably connected with the Abbey, namely, St. Michael's Chapel, or "St. Marie's," as it is erroneously described in a map of the latter end of Henry VIII.'s reign, and what was no doubt the monks' retreat, the chapel or grange at Ilesam. St. Michael's Chapel is situated on the crest of a bold mass of limestone, which, in consequence, is generally known as Chapel Hill, about half a mile from the Abbey, and close by the railway station at Tor. It is a very prominent object, from the fact that the rock has been quarried away to within a few feet of the building, which now overlooks a precipitous cliff. Care has been taken by the Lord of the Manor that no further stone shall be taken away. It is a very remarkable building. Its exterior dimensions are as follows: length, 36ft. 9in; interior length, 29ft. 6in.; height inside at east end, 17ft. 3in.; at the west end, 23ft. 9in.; exterior height, east end, 17ft. 9in.; west end, 23ft. 2in.* In the western end are two small windows, and in the sill of the lowest were to be seen many years ago the remains of a perpendicular and two horizontal irons. The window in the eastern end is much larger, and is protected by iron bars placed there in recent years; a porch existed on the south side, the walls of which still remain. For what purpose the chapel was erected there is not the slightest trace of evidence to show. It has been variously conjectured that it was a votive chapel erected by persons who had escaped shipwreck; to have been a place of punishment, its enormous strength giving colour to the presumption that it was used for the purposes of confinement; to have been the retreat of a hermit; or, from the superior sanctity of its founder, to have been the resort of pilgrims, who hoped by expiatory penances to atone for a life of pleasure. No record of the founder or date of erection has come down to our time. There is, however, enough internal evidence to fix the date at about the close of the 12th century. The

* Dr. Oliver.

style is that commonly called Early English. The walls are formed of limestone, procurable on the site, and such of the dressings as remain are of the new red sandstone which abounds in the cliffs from Babbacombe to the mouth of the Exe. The ceiling of the roof is a two-centred stone vault without ribs, covered with a soft stratified stone or shale, but this is not original, a portion of the original oak wall-plate still remaining. The cross is modern, and not in character with the design of the building. It was put up fifty years ago by the Marchioness of Bute. The inner arch and jambs of the east window (probably a triplet) are original, and in good preservation; the wide splay of the jambs and window-back mark this example as being early in the style; part of the original sill still remains *in situ*. The outer jambs and arch have perished. These would have had a plain chamfer on their outer edge, such as may be seen on the jambs of the single-light window in the west wall. The piscina is in its usual place on the south wall; it is single with its orifice, but no trace of a shelf. The inner jambs of the window in the south wall are original, as also the opposite and corresponding window in the north wall. They have the usual wide-splayed jambs and segmental head; the latter window is blank, and each of them may have been of two lights. The doorway has a pointed outside arch, stilted on its east side; the inside arch, like those of the side windows, is segmental. The square-head single-light window in the west wall is perfect and original; the friable sandstone is somewhat disintegrated; but the chamfers are similar to what no doubt existed upon the jambs of the dilapidated windows. The single-light pointed window in the west gable is also complete. Both these windows have the wide splay on the jambs which is so characteristic of the style. The fabric appears to have become dilapidated; so, in order to preserve it from destruction, the windows were repaired with rubble; the lights narrowed, that in the north wall blanked, and the roof covered with stone. Some of the original plastering remains on the walls and ceiling, but no trace of

colour exists. The floor is a hanging level, that is, it falls from east to west; but no attempt has been made to cut away or level the live rock which crops up over its surface.

It is a remarkable fact that, up to within the last half century, when any foreign vessels arrived in Torquay, the crews of which were Roman Catholic, they invariably paid a visit to St. Michael's Chapel.

Ilesam Grange is situated on the confines of the parishes of Torquay and St. Mary-Church. Ilesam Manor belonged to William Hostiarius, from whom it passed to the Pomeroys, and thence to William Briwere in 1180, one of whose descendants bestowed it on the abbot and monks of Torre Abbey. The grange has for centuries been used as a farm house; the buildings betoken great antiquity and strength. The doorway and wall in front of the house are particularly noticeable. The tower in the yard is tolerably perfect, and the stone arch on the gable of the roof, to which a bell was suspended, is still preserved. Ilesam was once a cell of the Abbey, and was the residence of canons in seclusion. At the confiscation of the religious houses, Ilesam shared the same fate as the Abbey.



There was taken down about two years ago a quaint looking building, massive and very old, which stood in the Upton Road. It had a fine arched entrance and porch. It is believed that this was also used by the monks of Torre Abbey.

CHAPTER THE NINTH.

The Revolution of 1688.—Departure of the Prince of Orange from Holland.—The Strength of his Armament.—Steering for Torbay.—The Fog.—Overshooting the Mark.—Remarkable Change of Wind.—The Landing in Torbay.—The Prince Carried on Shore.—The Search for Arms at Torre Abbey.—How the Landing was Covered.—A Rainy March through Paignton and Cockington to Newton. How a Brixham Fisherman failed to be made a Lord. The Prince at Ford House.—Reading the Proclamation at Newton.—Camping on Milber Down.—The March on Exeter.—The Splendour of the Prince's Retinue.—Rallying to the Prince's Standard.—The Memorial Column at Brixham.—The Prince's Flag on the Exeter Canal.—Failure of the Attempt to Restore James II.—The French Attack on Shipping in Torbay.—Burning down Teignmouth.—Sir Cloudesley Shovel's Fleet Sailing from Torbay for the Relief of the Protestants in the South of France.

KING James II. had alienated the good will of his subjects by attempting to subvert the reformed faith, and by many acts of oppression. Apprehensive of being again brought under the subjection of the Court of Rome, the Protestants invoked the aid of William of Orange, and offered him the Crown. Preparations for the invasion of England were carried on in Holland very secretly for a time; but it was impossible that so powerful an armament could be collected together without causing suspicion, and at length the King discovered that the expedition was designed against his realm. Defensive measures were accordingly taken, but the English forces were notoriously disaffected. When all was ready, the Prince of Orange put to sea on the 19th of October, 1688, in a frigate of thirty guns. The

expedition by which he was accompanied consisted of fifty large ships of war, twenty-five frigates, as many fire-ships, with nearly four hundred victuallers and other vessels for the transportation of about four thousand horse and ten thousand soldiers.* He was also followed by several English noblemen and gentlemen of distinction, as well as by the General Officers of the States, and two or three hundred French Officers, who had left their country for their religion. Admiral Herbert led the van of the fleet, and Vice-Admiral Evertzen brought up the rear. The Prince placed himself in the main body, his vessel bearing a flag with English colours and their Highness's arms, surrounded with this motto: "The Protestant Religion and the Liberties of England;" beneath was the motto of the House of Nassau: "*Je maintiendrai*"—I will maintain.

In a few hours after leaving Helvoetsluys a tempest arose, which compelled the vessels to return to port. The final departure of the fleet took place on the 1st of November. On the 3rd the ships entered the English Channel, and lay between Calais and Dover in order to allow of those behind to come up. To quote the words of Rapin, the historian, who was on board one of the ships:—"It is easy to imagine what a glorious show the fleet made. Five or six hundred ships in so narrow a channel, and both the English and French shores covered with infinite spectators, are no common sights. For my own part, who was then on board the fleet, I must own the spectacle struck me in an extraordinary manner."

The design of the Prince was to land in Torbay, but during the night of the 4th the weather was foggy. The pilot, unfortunately, was unable to make out the bearings of the land, and so the fleet was carried considerably to the west of Berry Head. The situation became serious. To return in the face of the rising easterly gale, with the King's fleet, under the Earl of Dartmouth, presumably in

* Rapin's History of England, vol. xv.

quest of them, was impossible. To stand on for Plymouth was to court danger, if not the failure of the enterprise, for at the latter place there was a garrison of the King's, commanded by the Earl of Bath. But just as the hopes of all were fast sinking, the wind dropped, and then veered round to the south. Trimming sails to the favouring breeze, in five hours after, the fleet swept grandly round the bluff limestone promontory of Berry Head, and anchored off Brixham Quay on the morning of the 5th. Along the shores of Torbay, and on the various headlands, groups of people were watching the movements of the great armament. The inhabitants of Brixham came down to the beach; some expressing a lively interest in the invasion, others holding aloof, fearful of the consequences should the enterprise fail. The Prince was early astir that morning, and attended by his principal officers, approached the shore in his galley with something like irresolution; at length he directed it to where the crowd was the greatest, which happened to be near the landing place, and there paused. Then he asked if he was welcome. The people demanded his business. Spence says that the Prince thereupon addressed them in broken English, saying, "Mine goot people, mine goot people, I am only come for your goot, for all your goots!" adding that his sole object was to defend the interests of England against the Popish party. A hearty shout of welcome was the response. "If I am welcome, then," said he, "come and carry me ashore!" At that time the landing place was of the rudest description, and, as the tide was low, the boat could not approach close enough for the party to land. Whereupon a little man* waded into the water, and taking the Prince on his shoulders, carried him to the steps of the quay, where the standard of the Prince of Orange was

* The name of this individual was Varwell, and there are now several old persons at Brixham connected with the family of whom this man was a member, who can vouch for the accuracy of the story; indeed it was at the house of one of the Varwell family, in Middle Street, that the Prince stopped. The house has long since been removed, but its site is well known.

at once unfurled.* The disembarkation was immediately commenced, and lasted three days. Sixty boats were employed in conveying the troops to land, and these were encamped on the neighbouring heights. By the aid of the fishermen, a suitable spot was selected where the transports were enabled to come within sixty yards of the shore, and in the course of three hours several hundred horses were lowered into the sea, and swam to land. Meanwhile, the baggage, ammunition, and stores, were sent on to Topsham by water, from whence they were brought, strictly guarded, to Exeter.† The landing was effected without difficulty; the people, emboldened by the absence of any opposition to the invasion, welcomed the Prince as their deliverer, and speedily brought in what provisions were required for the army. As soon as the disembarkation was completed, the wind increased to a gale from the west, thus checking the advance of the Royal fleet from the eastward.

In a scarce pamphlet, belonging to Colonel Morgan Clifford, of Torquay (published 1689, and quoted by Mr. W. Pengelly, in the Transactions of the Devonshire Association for the Promotion of Science, Literature, and Art, vol. vii., p. 64), the following passage occurs, showing the excellent disposition of the fleet by the Prince for covering the landing: "About five in the morning we made the Start, the wind chopping around to the westward; upon

* There is a very absurd story current, that, on landing, the people are said to have presented their illustrious visitor with the following address:

"And please your Majesty King William
You're welcome to Brixham Quay,
To eat buckhorn and drink bohea
Along with we,
And please your Majesty King William."

The story carries with it its own refutation. Prince William had not yet attained the Crown. Again, tea was first introduced in 1660. In 1664 the East India Company imported a small packet weighing two pounds, as a present to the King. Several years afterwards the price of tea was sixty shillings per pound, and, therefore, not likely in 1688 to have been in general use as a beverage among a fishing population. The buckhorn referred to is dried whiting, for which Brixham has always been famous.

† Jenkins's *History of Exeter*, p. 186.

which we stood fair by Dartmouth, and so made for Torbay, where the Prince again ordered the whole fleet into the same position as at Dover and Calais. Upon his arrival at Torbay, the people on land in great numbers welcomed his Highness with loud acclamations of joy. Immediately after, the Prince gave two signals that the Admirals should come aboard him, which they did; and then ordered that the whole fleet should come to an anchor, and immediately land; and further ordered that the Admirals should stand out to sea as a guard, as well as the smaller men-of-war to guard their landing; and also ordered six men-of-war to run in to guard Torbay. The Prince then put out a red flag at the mizen-yard-arm and proceeded to land in sixty boats, laid ready for that purpose. Upon which the Prince signified that General Mackay, with his six regiments of English and Scots, should first land; and also that the little *Porpus*, with eighteen guns, should run aground to secure their landing. But there was no opposition; for the people bid us heartily welcome to England, and gave us all manner of provisions for our refreshment. The fifth of November (a day never to be blotted out of the Englishman's heart), the Prince caused to be landed about 2,000." In "a further account of the Prince's coming, in a letter sent from Exeter, dated November 24th," the writer says, "It is to admiration to consider the vast magazine of all war-like utensils brought hither by the Prince's army, their baggage having for a fortnight together been continually landing, and yet not fully ended. Were it not for the badness of the roads, as I was informed by a private sentinel, they could draw into the field an artillery of above 200 pieces. But the greatest curiosity I yet saw was a bridge of boats, such as I conceive the Imperialists use to pass over the Danube and Save with, which was for the speedy conveyance of the carriages, laid over the river in two or three hours, and afterwards as soon removed; not to mention a smith's shop or forge, curiously contrived in a waggon; or another contrivance the foot carry with them to keep off

the horse, which in their manner may well yield the service of a pike."

On the first day of the landing* a search party was sent to Torre Abbey and other houses in the neighbourhood for horses and arms. It is said that the Roman Catholic priest at Torre Abbey, on discovering the fleet, and noticing white flags floating from the mast-heads, concluded at once that it was the French, sent to assist King James against the designs of the Prince of Orange. Filled with joy at the notion, he summoned all the household to *Te Deum*. The search party, however, dispelled his illusion, and the feast, which had been prepared for the entertainment of the French, was fully appreciated by the Dutch. All the inmates, with the exception of the Dowager Lady Cary and a few of her old servants, fled from the house.†

Rain fell heavily during the time the army was landing, and the condition of the men was very distressing. The soldiers, before landing, were ordered to take three days' bread with them, and were at the trouble also of carrying their own tents. But the officers, even the most considerable, were very much mortified on their first encampment, being wet to the skin, and having neither clothes for change, nor bread, nor horses, nor servants, nor other bed than the earth, all drenched with rain; their baggage being yet in the ships. Had this held two days more, the officers, as well principal as subaltern, would have been reduced to great extremities. But the Prince left nothing undone for their refreshment. He ordered horses, carriages, and provisions, from the neighbouring country.‡

On Wednesday, the 7th, the Prince commenced his march to Newton, passing along the narrow lanes of Churston, Paignton, Cockington, and Kingskerswell, to

* Mr. Blewitt says the 7th; this is no doubt a printer's error, for it is improbable that so large a fleet could be in Torbay two days without the inmates of Torre Abbey being made acquainted with its object.

† Harleian Miscel.

‡ Rapin's History of England, vol. xv., p. 176.

Ford House. The roads were only adapted for pack-horses, and how the Prince's carriages and artillery were dragged through them after heavy November rains must remain a marvel.

On the authority of the late Rev. H. F. Lyte, vicar of Brixham, the man who carried the Prince on shore preceded him on the journey on a short ambling pony, which was commonly used in fish jolting; he rode bare-headed to Newton, and afterwards to Exeter.*

Arriving at Newton, the Prince was met by the Rev. John Reynell, the vicar of Wolborough, who, notwithstanding that William had not yet been received by the English gentry with that cordiality which he had been led to expect, preceded him to the Market-place, and there, at the base of the ancient stone cross, he was the first man to read publicly the Prince's proclamation to the people of England. That night William slept at Ford House, the residence of Sir William Courtenay, who, being absent, had given directions for his hospitable entertainment. The artillery was planted in the old Roman encampment at Milber Down, and the tents of the army were pitched on the heath.

On Thursday, the 8th, the army was set in motion for the march on Exeter. It must have been a grand spectacle, to judge from the accounts of contemporary historians. First came the Right Hon. Earl of Macclesfield, with two

* The zeal of the Brixham fisherman so highly pleased the Prince, that he desired him to come to court, when he would confer some lucrative office upon him; he also gave him a note under his hand, which was to be his passport into the Royal presence. Elated with his good fortune, the fisherman, after William was firmly seated on the throne, left Brixham for London, assuring his fellow-townsmen that he should come back a lord at least. On arriving at the great city, the simple countryman got into the hands of a gang of sharpers, who, having drawn out of him the nature of his errand, plied him with drink, and kept him in a state of drunkenness for several days. One of the party then secured the pass, and, having made himself sufficiently acquainted with the incidents of the Prince's landing, went to the Palace and received a handsome reward. When at length the fisherman recovered from his debauch, he presented himself at court; but, as he was unable to produce the letter, he was turned away as an impostor. The Rev. H. F. Lyte states that the man returned to Brixham, but could "never hold up his head again."

hundred horsemen, most of whom were English nobles and gentlemen, richly mounted on Flanders steeds, completely clothed in bright armour; two hundred negroes (attending the said gentlemen), wearing embroidered caps lined with white fur, and plumes of white feathers; two hundred Finlanders clothed in beaver skins, in black armour, with broadswords; fifty gentlemen, and as many pages, to attend and support the Prince's standard; fifty led horses, all managed and broken for war, with two grooms to each horse; two state coaches; the Prince on a milk-white horse, in a complete suit of bright armour, a plume of white ostrich feathers on his head, and forty-two running footmen by his side; two hundred gentlemen and pages on horseback; three hundred Swiss guards, armed with fusees; five hundred volunteers, with two led horses each; the Prince's guards, in number six hundred, armed *cap-a-pié;* the rest of the army brought up the rear; they had fifty waggons laden with cash, and one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon.*

On the line of march, the middle and lower classes were enthusiastic in their demonstrations of joy at the appearance of the army; but the landed proprietors and nobles were very backward in manifesting their real feeling, from an apprehension that the cause might fail. This reticence on the part of the aristocracy was very painful to the Prince, who began to think that the state of the country was not yet ripe for the bold measures to which he had committed himself.

Lord Mordaunt and Dr. Burnett (afterwards Bishop of Salisbury) pushed on in advance with four troops of horse, and on arriving at Exeter found the Westgate closed against them. The porter was ordered to open it on pain of death, and having complied, the Prince's advance guard entered the city. On Friday the Prince and his retinue came up, and the army occupied three hours in marching through.†

* Harleian Miscel.

† Jenkins's Hist. Exeter, p. 187.

The drooping courage of the Prince was soon revived by the defection from the Royalist cause of distinguished nobles, who brought a considerable number of the King's troops with them, and joined his standard. Thus the bloodless invasion commenced at Brixham was, in a few short weeks, happily consummated.

The stone on which the Prince of Orange first set foot in England was removed for the purpose of being built into a small granite column by the Commissioners for the Improvement of the Harbour and Market of Brixham, to commemorate his landing. The base of the pedestal contained the stone on which William first set foot; it had been polished, and the date and particulars of the great event inscribed upon it. This column was first set up in the fish market, but in consequence of its inconvenient situation it was taken down and put aside for a considerable time, to the great disappointment of numerous travellers, whose curiosity had been excited by Macaulay's famous history. It was taken from its obscurity in 1849 and erected on the Victoria pier, of which it now forms an ornament, as well as being a mark by which seamen are able to enter the harbour. The stone bears the following inscription: "On this stone, and near this spot, William, Prince of Orange, first set foot on his landing in England, 5th November, 1688."

When the Exeter Canal was opened, the flag which was displayed in the bow of the first barge in the procession was the identical banner under which William the Third landed at Brixham.

Two years later, in 1690, an attempt was made to restore King James to the throne. A French fleet harassed the mouth of the Thames, and then, proceeding westward, anchored in Torbay, where several merchant ships were captured. All the forces of Devon were concentrated at this point for the purpose of defence. From Torbay the boats of the fleet were sent, manned and armed, to ravage

the coast. They plundered and set fire to East and West Teignmouth and Shaldon. An appeal for the relief of the sufferers was made in all the churches of the land, in response to a "brief" issued by Royal authority. The tale, as given from the pulpit, is as follows:—

"On the 13th of July, about four of the clock in the morning, the French fleet was seen riding in Torbay, where all the forces of Devon were drawn up to oppose their landing. Several of their galleys drew off from the fleet and made towards a weak, unfortified place, called Teignmouth, about seven miles to the eastward of Torbay. Coming very near, and having played the cannon of their galleys upon the towns, and shot near two hundred great shot therein, to drive away the poor inhabitants, they landed about seven hundred of their men, and began to fire and plunder the towns of East and West Teignmouth, which consist of about three hundred houses. In the space of three hours they ransacked and plundered the said towns and a village called Shaldon, lying on the other side of the river, and burnt or destroyed a hundred and sixteen houses, together with eleven ships and barks that were in the harbour; and, to add sacrilege to their robbery and violence, they in a barbarous manner entered the two churches of the said towns, and tore the Bibles and Common Prayer Books in pieces, scattering the leaves thereof about the streets; broke down the pulpits; overthrew the communion tables; together with many other marks of a barbarous and enraged cruelty, and such goods and merchandise as they could not or durst not stay to carry away for fear of our forces, which were marching to oppose them, they spoilt and destroyed, killing very many cattle and hogs, which they left dead in the streets. And the said towns of East and West Teignmouth and Shaldon being in great part maintained by fishing, and their boats, nets, and other fishing craft, being plundered and consumed in the common flames, the poor inhabitants are not only deprived of their subsistence and maintenance,

but put out of condition to retrieve these losses by their future industry; the whole loss and damage of the said poor inhabitants, sustained by such an unusual accident, amounting to about £11,000, as appeared to our justices, not only by the oaths of many poor sufferers, but also of many skilful and experienced workmen who viewed the same, and have taken an estimate thereof; which loss hath reduced many poor inhabitants to a very sad and deplorable condition."

After this adventure, the vessels weighed anchor and stood away to the west, but in rounding Berry Head, two slaves leaped from one of the galleys into the sea; one was recaptured; the second, a Turk, after a desperate struggle for liberty, swam on shore, and was secured by the people who had witnessed the incident.

On the 5th of July, 1703, a great fleet assembled in Torbay. Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovel, with the combined English and Dutch squadrons under his command, was driven into Torbay, and after a stay of three days proceeded to the Mediterranean. The object of this important expedition was the relief of the Protestants in the Cevennes, in the South of France, who had been goaded into insurrection by the persecutions of the Papists. The successes of the Protestants made the sovereigns in alliance against France attentive to that insurrection, and the general concern the English nation expressed for a people that fought for the Protestant cause, together with the solicitations of some illustrious French refugees in their favour, moved her Majesty Queen Anne and his Royal Highness Prince George to propose the relieving of them in Council, and it was resolved that the fleet designed for service in the Mediterranean should endeavour to carry them a supply of arms, ammunition, and money. The proposal was well received by the people, who looked upon it as a just retribution upon the French king for countenancing the design of an insurrection in Scotland. The Dutch squadron consisted of

three flag ships and fourteen men-of-war, commanded by Admiral Alemond; these, with the forty which formed the English fleet, together with a great fleet of outward-bound merchant ships which were under their convoy, made Torbay present a very animated appearance. The expedition, however, failed to effect any active intervention on behalf of the insurgents.

CHAPTER THE TENTH.

Torquay in the Seventeenth Century.—Fleete, the Original Name of the Town.—Fleete Mill.—Testimony of Old Leases.—A Comprehensive Quit-Claim.—A Centenarian outliving her Ninety-nine Years' Lease The Erection of the Mill on Windmill Hill.—The case of Thomas Smith.—Leasing of Mines in Tormohun.—Sale of Tormohun to Sir Robert Palk.—The Palk Family.



N examination of the surrendered leases, counterparts of leases, indentures, agreements, court rolls, settlements, letters patent, and other documents in the possession of Sir L. Palk, Bart., M.P., at Haldon, brings to light two important facts: first, that as early as the sixteenth century, at least, there was no inconsiderable number of houses in the neighbourhood of the harbour; and secondly, that the town was better known by the name of Fleete * than Tor Key. For example, there is a lease dated 20th April, 5th James 1st (1608), granting to John Saunders "all that messuage or house, and another house and dye mill, lately erected and builded by the said John Saunders, at Fleete, within the tithing of Tormohun," with all water courses, &c., for "fower score and nineteen years," on three lives. In 1617, Thomas Ridgeway granted by lease to Robert Ball, mariner, of Cockington, "all that house or sollar † and appurtenances situate, lying, and being at Fleete, between the sollar of William Ball on the west side, and the then tenement wall and sollar sometime in the possession of William

* Fleot, a Saxon word, signifies a place where the tide comes up. In opening the ground in the Meadow for building purposes, many years ago the workmen came upon the old sea beach several feet below the present l

† The word *sollar*, now obsolete, repeatedly occurs in the old leases appears to be an equivalent to the word house, and is used in that sense. same word is found in many of the old leases at Paignton.



Drawn by G. Beaford.

Directory Co., Lith.

TORQUAY, 1780.

THE HARBOUR, PARK HILL, AND BEACON HILL.

Property of Torquay.

nouth, deceased, on the south, lately erected and ed by William Symons, mariner, of Cockington." nas Ridgeway, on the 19th of September, in the 15th of James I. (1618), granted to John Sayle, for the con- ation of £120, a lease of certain mills in Fleete,* in nanor of Tormohun, for "fower score and nineteen ," determinable on the death of three lives. A lease, minable on three lives, was granted by Thomas Lord eway, on the 28th of September, in the 19th year of s I. (1622), to William Alward Nelder, yeoman, in deration of £3 5*s*., for a house situate in Fleete, in the h of Tormohun. According to a deed bearing date 10th, 1650, the Right Hon. Lord John Ridgeway ed to Henry Neck, "the son of John Neck, of Tor sayler," for the consideration of £10, "all that man- or dwelling house at Fleete, and plots and parcels of thereunto belonging, now in the occupation of the said Neck, and Elizabeth, his wife," "for fower score and een years in reversion." † In October, the same year, was granted to Widow Payne, "all that one sollar in occupation of the said Widow Payne, situate, lying, being at Fleete." Premises "at Fleete" were leased ichael Mulligan, in January, 1653. On the 21st of ary, 1655, Anstis quarry was leased for twenty-one ; and on the 20th of May, 1662, "Moadfoot quarry, e, lying, and being on the south side of Torwood," leased to John Lyell, of Topsham. Elizabeth Wil- , widow, obtained a lease, dated May 20th, 1660, of essuage or sollar house, bake-house, herb garden, and the courtelege thereunto adjoining," and all public , &c., "situate, lying, and being at Upton, within the h of Tormohun." To John Black, husbandman, were l, December 22nd, 1659, "all those closes, ffields, ces of ground, that is to say, one close called Middle one close called Kent's Hole, one close called Egnden,

* The mill which stood at the back of the Union Hotel.

† By an earlier lease, the house was granted to John Neck.

one close called Wildeswood, one close called Old Close, and the meadow called Bramble Meadow." To Daniel Luscombe was leased, January 29th, 1663, "all the messuage or dwelling house situate at Fleete, lately in the occupation of Joanna Yeo, widdo." William Lang, mariner, on the 29th of October, 1663, obtained the grant of "all the mansion or dwelling house, with its appurtenances, situate, lying, and being in Fleete," . . . "with the piece or parcel of land belonging thereto, some time since in the occupation of Elizabeth Kirk, widow, and lately in the occupation of Elizabeth Harris, on the south side of the mill leat that cometh from Fleete Mill, and between the said mill leat and Waldon Way." By deed, dated November 26th, 1676, there was granted to Christopher Martin, mariner, of St. Mary-Church, and Grace, his daughter, "all that house or sollar adjoining unto the little Key, and bounded by the sollar now in the occupation of John Drew, on the south-west side, and a sollar on the north side, in the occupation of Thomas Powell." In numerous other leases, the word Fleete constantly occurs in the description of the property.

In some of the deeds of later date, the words Tor Key are introduced in addition to Fleete. For example, in a grant to Daniel Luscombe, dated 29th September, 1670, the property is described as "all that messuage or mansion house situate, lying, and being at Fleete, otherwise Tor Key, within the parish of Tormohun aforesaid, hitherto in the occupation of Anthony Hoppins, late of Tor Key, blacksmith, deceased."

There is a curious document dated September 3rd, 1666, setting forth that Catherine Follett is possessed of premises in Tormohun, "which she there holds by copy of court roll for the term of her widowhood, according to the custom of the said manor.*"

* Another custom peculiar to the manor was that of Free Bench, namely, that if a customary tenant die, the widow shall have her Free Bench in all his copyhold lands, *dum sola* and *casta fuerit*, but if she commit incontinency, she forfeits her estate, unless she complies with sundry conditions acknowledging her error, &c. The lord of the manor had also the right of inflicting capital punishment.

A very broad and comprehensive quit-claim is contained in a parchment endorsed, "Elford's discharge to the Earl of Londonderry." It says, "I do hereby acquit and discharge Robert Ridgeway, of Tor, in the county of Devon, and kingdom of England, baronet, and Lord Baron Ridgeway and Earl of Londonderry, in the kingdom of Ireland, of and from all reckenings, claymes, and demands, whatsoever, from the beginning of the world to this day. Witness my hand, this 12th day of August, Anno Domini 1670.—FRANCIS ELFORD."

The fact of a person outliving a ninety-nine years' term, and surrendering the lease in person, is an exceedingly rare occurrence, yet an instance of this kind actually took place in Fleete, or Tor Key. The Earl of Londonderry, on the 29th of May, 1678, demised a cottage-house, orchard, herb garden, a field, and other ground thereto belonging, to "John Goodman, sayler, for fower score and nineteen years," on the lives of himself, Philippa, his wife, and Mary, his daughter. The deed is endorsed with the statement that Mary surrendered it in person on the 23rd June, 1777, "having outlived her term." Assuming that Mary was only twelve months old when her father obtained the lease, she must have been a centenarian when she delivered up possession.

There are two parchments which afford much information respecting the windmill, the ruins of which still exist on what is generally known as Windmill Hill, the proper name of which is Yaddon Down, as described on the maps of the manor. A twenty-one years' lease of the land was granted March 13th, 1673, by the Earl of Londonderry to "James Waters, of London, citizen and merchant tailor," in consideration that the said Waters "will erect and build a sufficient and commodious wind mill, with two mill stones in it, one to grind wheat and the other barley, on Yaddon Hill Down or Common, at any place where it is fit and convenient, situate, lying, and being in the parish of Tormohun, near the village called Upton." The second parch-

ment shows that at the end of the term the mill was leased for seven years to John Nott, miller, of Chagford.

In the year 1700 a lease of land was granted by Thomas Ridgeway to several inhabitants of the parish, the land being situated between Ridgeway's land—that which once belonged to John Chockman—and the church, being 70 feet in length and 24 in breadth, including the Church House. This place was afterwards converted into a Workhouse. The lease was for 99 years, at the yearly rent of sixteen pence. This appears to have been the renewal of a lease originally granted by Abbot Dyer on the 27th May, 1520.

To Rawlin Mallock, of Cockington, was granted by lease, dated 1711, "all that house or sollar, and garden, lying at the east end of the Great Key at Fleete, and the courtelege before the said house or sollar, all which said premises are parcels of the manor of Torwood, lately in the possession of John Waymouth." The term was ninety-nine years, on the lives of Rawlin Mallock, his wife, and son, "if they should so long live." There is a memorandum added to the parchment, by which the Earl of Londonderry reserves free liberty "to carry all manner of things down upon the key."

There is a peculiar interest connected with a certain indenture or agreement, dated the 15th of December, 1710, because it appears to be the last act of a protracted case of litigation, in which was put forward a claim for a considerable sum of money. The parties concerned in the case were Thomas Smith, of Tor Key, mariner, and Mary, his wife, who was the daughter of Mary Luscombe, and administratrix to her goods and chattels, on the one part, and the Earl of Londonderry on the other. The deed recites that the said Mary Luscombe, widow, in her lifetime, namely, in or about Hilary Term, in the second year of their late Majesties William and Mary (1691), obtained a judgment against the Earl of Londonderry, in their Majesties' Court of Common Pleas at Westminster, for

£532 debt, besides costs; it adds that the said Mary Luscombe had since deceased, and bequeathed to the said Mary, her only child, whatever goods, chattels, and other property she possessed, and to whom letters of administration had been granted. The said Mary, her daughter, was therefore entitled to the judgment and all the benefits and advantages thereof. And Mary, having intermarried with Thomas Smith, he thereby, in right of his wife, became entitled to such benefits and advantages. The document goes on to state that Smith and his wife, their heirs, administrators, executors, and assigns, covenant, promise, and guarantee unto and with the said Robert, Earl of Londonderry, his heirs, &c., that if the said Earl shall and will truly pay and cause to be paid to Thomas Smith, the full sum of £103, on or about the 24th of June, and also an indenture signed by the Earl of Londonderry, and delivered to Thomas Smith or his order, for his own life, to be nominated by Thomas Smith, after the decease of Elizabeth Card [or Coad] on the estate or tenement she at that time held possession of, that then and thereupon Thomas Smith and his wife shall and will on reasonable request, and at the cost and charge of the Earl of Londonderry, set forth an acknowledgment upon record for the said judgment, and the debt and damage thereby recovered.

Of mining operations, both at St. Mary Church and Torquay, some particulars are given in various legal documents. About 1680, the Earl of Londonderry began tin works on a large scale in the brook near Westhill, and also in the brook which runs by the Teignmouth Road. Geologists would never have recommended mines to be sunk in such places, but the Earl was led to believe that there were rich lodes, and accordingly he erected stamping mills and machinery, at a great expense. These works led to opposition on the part of the owner of Tor Abbey, and the result was that a bill was filed in the Stannary Court by the Earl of Londonderry against Mr. Edward Cary. The following is an extract from the document referred to:—

"To the Worshipful John Manley, Esquire, Steward of the Stannary Courts of Devon, &c. Sheweth unto your worship your dayly orator, the Right Hon. the Earl of Londonderry, that on the 10th of April, 1695, and long before and ever since that tyme, hath been seized of and in three several Tyn workes, situate, lying, and being within the several parishes of St. Mary Church and Tormohun, in the county of Devon, and within the jurisdiction of the severall Stannary Courts of Chagford and Ashburton, and (designing as well for the publick good as also for your orator's own profit and advantage) to adventure as an adventuring Tynner, to imploy his spalliers, servants, and workmen, to digge and work in the said severall and respective Tynworks, and therein to dig and search for tynne oares, did on the said date imploye severall spalliers, servants, and workmen to the purpose aforesayd, and was att great charges in providing for them tooles, implements, and other materialls, and all things necessary for that imployment, which being payinfully and industriously managed, great quantities of tyn oar were digged and thrown on the grasse of the said severall and respective tyn workes. He also caused to be erected a stamping mill, for the stamping of the tyn oare, and caused a water-course to be led to the said mills, by all which he had great prospects of acquiring great summes of money, by the effects and products of the said Tynworkes. *Complains*, that one Edward Cary, of the parish of Tormohun, Esq., impeded the improvement of the works, and maligned the publick good designed by the complainant in 1695 by diverting the water course, so that it was impossible for the water to run to the stamping mill, whereby the works became unprofitable, and complainant lost £500 and upwards. That Edward Cary alleges (1) that complainant was not entitled to the Tynworkes or water-course; (2) that its diversion did him no damage." There is no record of any judgment having been given in this case.

In a lease dated 1720, Lucy, the Countess of London-

derry, grants to Thomas Burden "all the mines and minerals, copper, lead, iron, tin, or any other mine or mines and minerals already found or to be found in the Manor of Tormohun, or Tor Moone;" also all vermillion earth which may be had or got in any part thereof; together with right of way for horses, &c. The consideration is stated to be a ninth-part of the produce. The mines are indicated on the map as being between Torwood and Hope's Nose.

As late as 1850 an iron mine was worked at Torre, between the Infirmary and the first house in Higher Union Street, on the side of the hill facing Upton. The ore was reputed to be rich, but it does not appear that a lode was ever reached, and in a few years mining operations were abandoned. About ten years after some rich samples of iron ore were raised at Sandhill Road, Ellacombe. No attempt, however, was made to work it as a commercial speculation.

A quaint old document* covering both sides of four sheets of letter paper, being an account kept by the bailiff of the Londonderrys during the last four years that they held possession of Torwood Manor House, before it passed into the hands of the Donegals, affords some interesting particulars respecting the price of provisions, the funeral of the Earl of Londonderry, the marriage of the heiress with the Earl of Donegal, and other matters. It is described as "An account of John Blatchford since he made up his last account with my Lord Londonderry." The following are a few of the items during the year 1712. "For a shoulder of mutton, 1*s.* 2*d.*;" "For a leg of mutton, 1*s.* 2*d.*;" "For seven hogsheads of cyder drank att Torwood during my Lord's stay there, £7;" "For a man and two horses when my Lord went away, 6*s.*;" "For a letter from my Lord, 10*d.*;" "For land-tax for the mill, 5*s.* 1½*d.*;" "Renewing the bounds, 10*s.*;" "Michaelmas Court charges, 16*s.* 8*d.*;" "Ann Ffox for keepeing the oar, 5*s.*" These

* This is in the possession of Mr. S. Johnson, of Torquay.

last three items regularly occur in each year's accounts. "Paid land tax, £10 18*s.*;" "Window tax, £1 10*s.*;" "Church and poor rate, £7 0*s.* 4*d.* Under date 1713, appear the following entries, "For carrying timber to the windmill, 1*s.* 6*d.*;" "For carrying twenty pounds to Dartmouth, 2*s.*;" "Received three letters from my Lady, 2*s.* 6*d.*;" "To four hogsheads of cyder, £5;" "Paid Walter Dearing for Heyling the Brue house, £3 2*s.* 6*d.*"

The Earl of Londonderry died in 1713, and was buried in Tor Church. The following is a list of the charges on account of the funeral, as given by Master Blatchford:

	£	*s.*	*d.*
For beer at the Church house	1	4	5
For making three graves	1	4	0
To three women for carrying earth	0	1	6
To Thomas Jeffryes	0	1	6
For beer at Sandy Gate	0	3	0
For beer at Joan Cowell's	0	8	0
For meat and drink and wine at Tor towne for the bearers and gentlemen	4	0	0
For a murning suit for myselfe by order of my Lady	3	15	0

There was also paid to Thos. Jeffryes £1 4*s.* 6*d.* for laying the Barnfloor, and 4*s.* 8*d.* "for taking up the seats for my Lord's burying." Among the items for the year 1715 are "For the survey att Torwood for Nitrey's estate, 15*s.* 6*d*;" "For carrying the Recits to be sent to London, 2*s.* 6*d.*" Mr. Holwell's name appears every half year as a visitor, and he was evidently the agent who received the rents; for example, "Mr. Holwell att Torwood, charges, 3*s.* 6*d*;" "When my son carried the money to Mr. Holwell, 2*s.*" The mill was at times unoccupied, for there is an entry "For crying the mill at Totness and Nuton, 1*s.*"

Lucy Ridgeway, the heiress of the Londonderrys, was married to Arthur, the Earl of Donegal, on the 3rd of October, 1716. It appears that in August, previous to the marriage, his Lordship visited Torwood, and remained five days. From the minute details given by honest John

Blatchford, there must have been great preparations made for his reception; the house was furbished up for the occasion, and various new goods were purchased. Here are some of the items: "To three yards of cloath to mend and cover the beds, 1*s.* 6*d.*;" "For twelve yards of poledany to cover two beds, 7*s.* 1*d.*;" "For three geese, 3*s.* 9*d.*;" "For one pound of loafe sugar, 1*s.*;" "For five pounds of powdered sugar, 2*s.* 8*d.*;" "For eleven chicken at 5*d.* a piece, 4*s.* 7*d.*;" "For six ditto, at 3½*d.* a-piece, 1*s.* 9*d.*;" "For a dozen lobsters, 5*s.*;" "For bread and flower, 10*s.* 6*d.*;" "For beer, £1 4*s.* 6*d.*;" "For a man fetching wine from Topsham, 2*s.* 6*d.*;" "For a man fetching wine from Dartmouth, 1*s.* 6*d.*;" "For a man and two horses to fetch sande, 2*s.*;" "For a man and horse to fetch wine from Totness, 1*s.*;" "For two dozen of wine from Totness, £2;" "For two dozen of clarett from ditto, 4*s.*;" "For two dozen of wine from Topsham, £1 13*s.*;" "For one dozen of wine from Dartmouth, 14*s.*;" "For meat for ten horses, five days, £1 5*s.*;" "For beer at Joan Cowell's, 17*s.* 6*d.*"

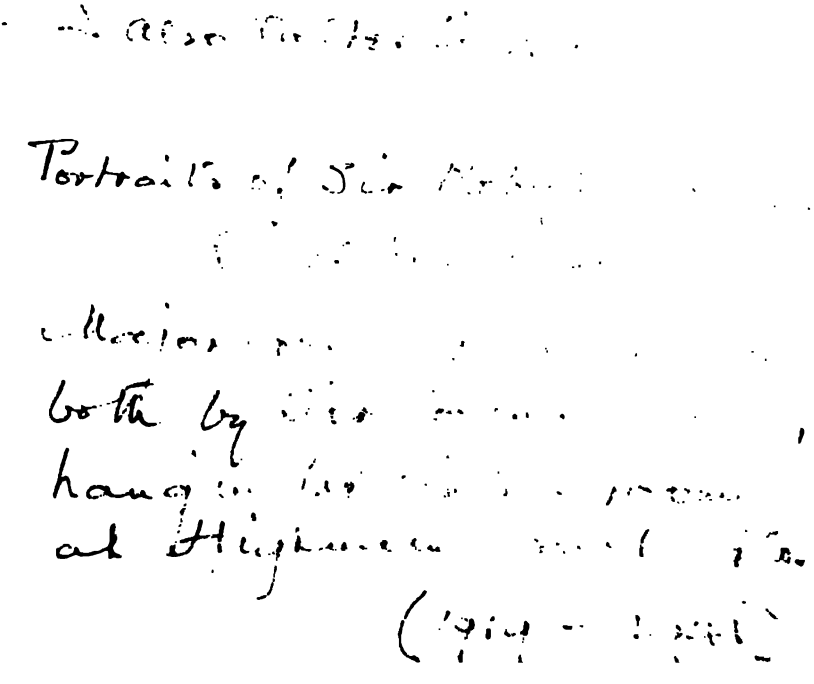
The deed of conveyance by which the Manor of Tormohun was transferred to Sir Robert Palk fills ten sheets of parchment.* The estate was sold under a decree of Chancery, on the 21st of June, 1767. The lease and release bears date the 20th and 21st June, 1768, the contracting parties being Arthur, Earl of Donegal, on the first part; Henry Adam, on the second part; the Right Hon. Frances Graham, Countess of Londonderry, widow and relict of Thomas Pitt the younger, and then the widow of Robert Graham, and surviving daughter and heiress of the Right Hon. Robert Earl of Londonderry, on the third part; the Hon. Lucy Meyrick on the fourth part; Robert Palk, Bart., of Spring Gardens, county Middlesex, and Henry Vansittart, on the fifth part; and William Michael Lang, of the Chancery Office, on the sixth part. After reciting various articles and deeds, the property disposed of is described as "all that and those manors, town, and lands

* The collection of deeds at Haldon.

of Tormohun, otherwise Tor Moone, and the barton and farm of Torwood, and that and those the manor or lordship or reputed manor or lordship of Ilsam or Ilesam, with their and every of their rights and appurtenances, situated in the county of Devon. And all and singular and other the manor, town, lands, tenements, and hereditaments whatsoever, situate, lying, and being in the parish of St. Mary-Church, or other of them, in the said county of Devon, whereof or wherein the said Arthur, Earl of Donegal, or other persons in trust for him, have any estate or inheritance whatsoever." The deed is signed by Donegal, Henry Adam, Frances Londonderry, Lucy Meyrick, Robert Palk, and Thomas Cholmondeley.

The Palk family date from the fifteenth century, in the reign of Henry VII. At that time they resided at Ambrose, in the parish of Ipplepen. The father of the first baronet, Walter Palk, was member of Parliament for Ashburton, and his second son represented the same borough on the death of his father. The elder son, Robert, the purchaser of Tormohun, won honour and distinction in India: he was first Governor of Madras in 1763, and was created a baronet for his services. During his residence in India the strongest friendship existed between him and Major-General Stringer Lawrence, to whose memory he erected a belvedere and statue at Haldon. Sir Robert Palk died in 1798, and was succeeded in the title and estates by his son, Sir Lawrence Palk, M.P. for Devon, who, on the 15th of May, 1792, was married to Lady Dorothy Elizabeth Vaughan, eldest daughter of Wilmot, Earl of Lisburne. Six sons and two daughters were the issue of this marriage, Lawrence Vaughan Palk, Robert John Palk, Wilmot Henry Palk, John Palk, Edward Palk, Arthur George Palk, Elizabeth Mallet Palk, and Mary Palk. Sir L. Palk died in 1814, and his son, Lawrence Vaughan Palk, M.P. for Ashburton, succeeded him; he married, on the 9th of December, 1815, Anna Eleanor Hartopp, widow of Edward Hartopp, of Little Dalby, in the county of Leicester, and eldest

daughter of Sir Bouchier Wrey. The children of the marriage were Lawrence Palk, Henry Palk, Arthur John Palk, and Augustus Palk. Sir L. V. Palk died in 1860, and was succeeded by his eldest son, the present baronet, Sir Lawrence Palk, who was born in London in 1818. He was educated at Eton, and entered the 1st Dragoons in 1835, and became lieutenant in 1836. He retired from the service in 1840. Sir Lawrence is a Deputy-Lieutenant and magistrate of the county of Devon, Colonel-Commandant of the First Devon Volunteer Artillery, and of the Dorset Rifle Volunteers. He represented South Devon from 1854 to 1868, and on the formation of the Eastern Division was returned as one of the members, and has retained the seat up to the present time. He was married, in 1845, to Maria Harriet, daughter of Sir Thomas Hesketh, of Rufford, Lancashire, and has issue living, Lawrence Hesketh Palk, (born 1846, and married 1868 to the Hon. Constance Mary, eldest daughter of the seventh Viscount Barrington), Robert Henry Palk, born in 1848, Annette Maria, born September 19th, 1851, (married Alexander Baird, Esq., of Urie, N.B.), Evelyn Elizabeth, and Edward Arthur.



CHAPTER THE ELEVENTH.

Torquay and the Naval Fleets.—The Cottages by the Stream.—Torquay a Hundred Years Ago.—The Old Mill.—A Flood in Upton Valley.—Swan Street and Fleet Street.—An Opportunity for making a grand Improvement Lost.—The Old Lanes.—The Quay.—Torre Abbey Sands.—Torwood Grange.—The Home of the Ridgeways.—A Runaway Match.—Bampfylde Moore Carew's Audacious Charge of Smuggling against Mr. Cary.—Houses of Entertainment in Torquay, 1770.

THE numerous wars in which England was engaged with France, Spain, Portugal, and America, during the last century, kept the southern coast in a perpetual state of activity. During these stirring times Torbay was the chief rendezvous of the British fleet, the principal officers of which spent much of their time on shore. Torre Abbey was the favourite residence of Earl St. Vincent, and Mr. Cary has in his possession some valuable documents comprising the plans of the Earl for the order of battle, in the event of the arrival of the French fleet. It naturally followed that those whom a sense of duty compelled to spend so large a portion of their time in this part of the country should be visited by their friends. In this way a new population sprang up at Brixham, Paignton, and Torquay, but more especially at the latter, where many enterprising persons had erected dwellings for the accommodation of the new comers. The little groups of cottages at the mouths of the two streams which ran down to the beach from Torwood on one side and Fleet Mills on the other, gave place, in the early part of the present century, to a row of small two-storey houses, of very simple style and arrangement, con-



Drawn on Stone by P. Bedford.

Directory Co., Lith.

FLEETE MILL, 1780.

From an original drawing by late Mr. Swete, of Octon.

Printed at Torquay.

sisting of a parlour each side of the entrance door, with bedrooms over, while in the front were small gardens, protected from the road by wooden palisades. This was the Strand, and it became the favourite residence of the distinguished persons who were drawn here by the fame of the charming scenery, as well as by the reputation of the mild climate. A few of these old houses, with their parlour windows and garden plots, existed as late as 1855. As the town grew, the houses were converted into shops, and the gardens have been added to the footpath.

Of Torquay, as it appeared to a visitor a hundred years ago, a very good account has been given by the late Rev. J. Beaumont Swete, in his MS. notes. In 1780 Tor was a fairly populous village, and in Torquay groups of cottages were clustered in the Meadow (Fleet Street) and Torwood Valley, as well as in the district now known as Pimlico, while cottages and fish cellars occupied the northern part of the present Victoria Parade, for a considerable trade was maintained with Newfoundland. A stream of water, having its rise at Barton, flowed down the Coombe valley through the vale of Upton to Fleet Mill, which stood at the back of the Union Hotel, from whence it ran on to the sea. This stream was for many years the boundary line between the manors of Torre Abbey and Torwood. The water wheel and the half-ruinous old mill clothed with luxuriant ivy which crept over its walls presented an extremely picturesque appearance. Mr. Swete says: "The trees also, in their different distances and situations, contribute to heighten the effect of opposition, whilst the nearer quarry, with its ruddy tints, crested with a fine belt of wood, and the empurpled hues of a little mountain beyond (Stantaway Hill), finish a picture of unparalleled beauty. The stone work of the lower part of the building, spotted with moss and ivy, have a delightful relief given them by the lighter look and colouring of the woodwork about it. The thatched roof is pleasingly contrasted with the slate, and the firm massive walls with the parts that

are dilapidated and supported by a prop; the foam of the water also falling from the wheel, when the sunbeams are intercepted by the shower; and the lower walls of the mill passing through the shade, possess a dazzling whiteness, and hath an uncommonly fine effect." Up to forty years ago the mill was in regular work.* It then gave place to property which has since been converted into the Union Hotel. The mill pond was as nearly as possible on the spot where St. Michael's Church now stands. When taken down, the two mill-stones were put to serviceable use, one as a step to the front door of the hotel, and the other as the corner stone of the pavement leading into the yard. When the path was relaid, in 1873, the stones were removed, and are now preserved by the host of the inn.

The valley of Union Street occasionally suffered from floods, just as in recent years. It is said that a gardener embarked in business as a nurseryman in a pleasant meadow about the middle of the valley, and was doing well in providing for the wants of the place, when, on a memorable occasion, the stream, fed by heavy rains, swelled into a torrent, and carried away the whole of the enterprise; broken sheds, trees, and stock, were swept bodily into the sea, and the unfortunate agriculturist abandoned the site in despair.

In 1780, there was only one decent house west of the mill leat, near where the water ran into the sea, and that was the "Bird in Hand" public house, afterwards the London Inn, now the site of the three lower houses of Fleet Street. "The village or town, the property of Sir R. Palk, where the quay is situated, lies to the east of the rivulet separating the possessions of that gentleman from those of Mr. Cary." The aspect of the place was far more romantic than can be now imagined. The deep and narrow gorge between the Braddons and the Waldon Hill was a sylvan scene; on one side were the craggy cliffs, while on the other "the

* Several persons living in Torquay at this time well remember, as children, taking corn to the mill to be ground.



Drawn by G. Redford

History of Torquay.

TORQUAY, 1700.

WALDON HILL.

STANTAWAY HILL.
KARE'S LANE.

THE MEADOW (FLEET STREET).

unviolated woods were in the wild and beautiful state in which they had been fashioned by nature." When the houses were built in Swan Street, George Street, and the Meadow, the characteristic beauty of the glen was utterly destroyed. The injudiciousness of this procedure was apparent to the mind of Mr. Swete, for in his notes he very wisely observes:—"It were much to have been wished that the two proprietors of the place had, at the *debut* of the improvements, gone hand in hand together. One great and uniform plan might have been formed which would have redounded to their mutual advantage, and the village of Torquay put upon a par with any of the boasted watering places in the country. . . . . Instead of the meadow being frittered away by an insignificant row of houses, that skirt its sides and block it up towards the sea, it might have been converted into a handsome street which would have opened to the water, and formed an approach to it of unrivalled beauty." The landowners, however, were not always on the most amicable of terms either with themselves or their tenants; they were apparently indifferent to what was picturesque in the scenery of the valley; they planted the houses as thickly as possible, and the consequence has been that in recent years the Local Board of Health have had to rectify their errors by purchasing the houses and widening the thoroughfare at a cost of £30,000.

The road from Torquay to Torre Abbey was through a lane, known as Kane's Lane, passing up the valley. It was about eight feet wide. This lane passed along what is now Swan Street,—Waldon Hill being on one side and a thorn hedge on the other; beyond the hedge was the stream of water; Union Street was a furze brake, and where the Town Hall stands was an orchard;—the upper end of the lane was nearly opposite to the existing Town Hall, midway between Fleet Street and the opening of the Rock Road; thence it continued on by the rope-walk (Orchard Terrace), and along by the boundary wall of Torre Churchyard. There was no passing along the shore from the quay

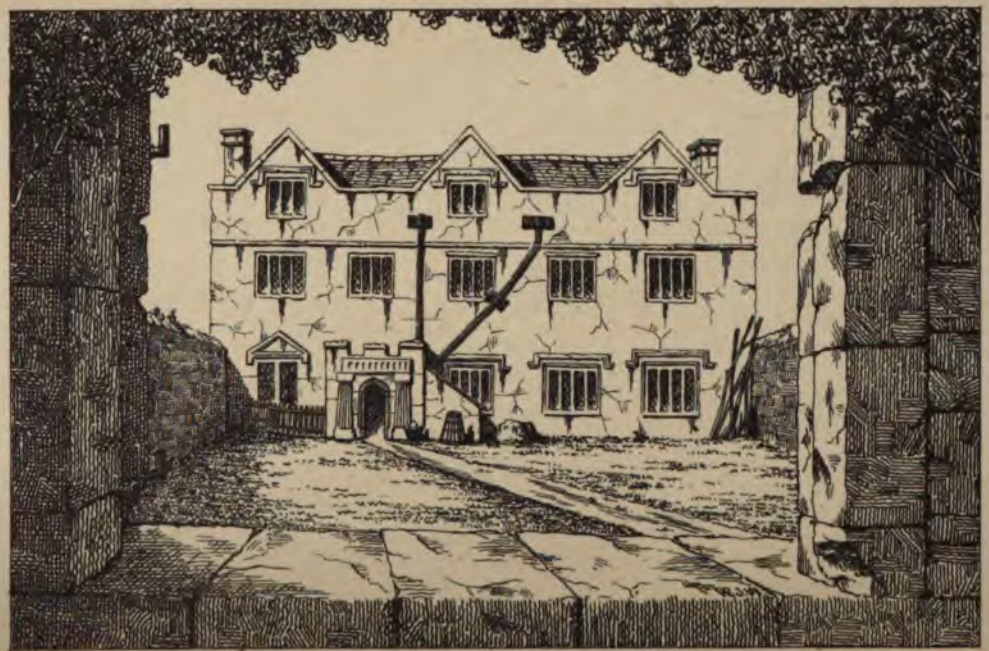
to the Abbey, for at high tide the water laved the base of Waldon Hill. But for foot passengers there was a church path (Rock Walk), which was gained by a steep and rugged ascent "from the western part of the Cove carried on the elevated ridge of an immense cliff of marble, protected only from the precipice by a stunted form of brushwood;" on the other side "it gradually sloped towards the north, displaying its indigenous woods of oak in the highest picturesque beauty, and the summit of the hill is covered with a fir plantation."

Abbey Place, Cary Parade, and Marina Villa (where now stands the Torbay Hotel) were built by a person named Searle, who, it is said, "removed part of the cliff itself to give space for his houses, forming them on a terrace, which is protected from the sea by a low parapet wall." It may sound odd to modern ears that a parapet wall only protected Cary Parade from the sea. At that time the sea flowed some distance up the valley; at the mouth of the stream there was a sort of delta, on which were two cottages known as the Island houses, and the site of Vaughan Parade was but a sunken bank, visible only at low tide.

Old Wood Field, including the entire hill from Park Crescent to Lisburne Crescent, derived its name from the fine oak timber which formerly grew in the valley, and was cut down during the French war for shipbuilding at Plymouth. When Mr. Vivian took a lease of the ground for his residence in 1842, the only remains were four oaks and a fine old tree in the Public Gardens.

On the eastern side of the mill leat were situated the village and quay. The latter was a very indifferent structure; the stone-work was bound and kept together by wooden logs, which were clamped with iron, and in different parts served as a kind of rough ladder by which the fishermen were able to ascend from their boats.

"Immediately behind the houses on the quay, the ground ascends in a rapid manner; in many parts the



Drawn on Stone by Wm J. Wyatt. Directory Co., Lith.

TORWOOD MANOR HOUSE, 1820.

Formerly the Residence of the Ridgeways.

rock appeared, with a smooth perpendicular face; a pathway leads over the cliffs (Beacon Terrace) to Daddy Hole." . . . . . "and a path (Silver Hill) behind the quay, winds up a dell among the rocks."

Beyond the cliffs of Waldon Hill a splendid range of sand extended to Corbon Head, and at low tide people were able to walk out a considerable distance. At the time that Mr. Swete wrote, Waldon Hill had a bare and ragged top, for "it had just been planted with trees by Mr. Cary; the sides were not converted into gardens, but various sorts of trees and underwood were scattered here and there, charmingly diversifying the same; through this little wilderness a pathway runs." This is now Rock Walk.

Next to Torre Abbey, the manor house of the Ridgeways, Torwood Grange, was the most important building in the parish. It was situated on Torwood Mount, and in the present building-yard of Mr. Harvey may still be seen portions of the walls. There is no good view of it extant, other than a lithograph which was published by Rowe, of Exeter, fifty years ago, and the copies are now very scarce. Quoting the same authority: "Torwood Grange is situated on an eminence high above the little valley on either side; the old tree that grows behind and sideways by the building gives it a fine relief, and the underwood that overspreads the slopes in its front contributes to effect an appearance of warmth and colour. The house is not quite half-a-mile from the quay. Passing an elm tree of vast bulk, I ascended several steps, and through an arched gateway entered a spacious court of quadrangular form, surrounded by high walls. The house had a venerable aspect; its windows are framed with stone mullions, and over the gateway was a sculpture, possibly the arms of the family of Ridgeway, its ancient possessors. The rooms within had nothing remarkable but their size. The hall in particular possesses from this circumstance no small degree of consequence; and the chamber above, now converted into a general dormitory for the servants of the farmer who rents the estate,

seems to be of equal dimensions. There are, however, no other remains of magnificence of the family that inhabited it; no heraldry, or sculpture, or painted glass; the stairs only savour of that ancient workmanship of the day when the arts were rude, and timber was in abundance; for, instead of being constructed as they now uniformly are, of one horizontal piece and another upright, the stairs individually consist of one solid block of oak." At the demolition of the house, about thirty years ago, the stairs were bought by the late Mr. Burt, a cabinet maker, by whom the wood was wrought into a variety of upholstery goods. The Purbeck mullions of the windows, &c., were given to Mr. E. Vivian by the late Sir L. V. Palk, and used in the erection of Woodfield. A more recent writer states that Torwood house was the most perfect example of Tudor architecture in the neighbourhood. The initials of Thomas Ridgeway, with the date 1579, were to be seen on the cistern at the head of the lead shutes in front of the building. In the principal sitting room and bedrooms were some fine ancient wainscoting; and over the fireplace in the former was a painting representing a castle, which was said to be the residence of the Donegals in Ireland. A singular feature about the house was that on the uppermost storey there was a room with a lime-ash floor. The remains of the granary were situated at the back of the mansion. A quantity of leaden pipes, half-an-inch in diameter, were dug up about forty years ago in the field above Torwood. The pipes evidently led from the old well at the head of the field, and was the means of supplying the house with water. The well had a beautifully pointed arch, which is now at Woodfield. One of the gateways of Torwood was standing within the remembrance of persons living, and formed the northern entrance to the grounds of the house occupied by the late Mr. Joseph Garrow, one of the local magistrates. A fine specimen of Tudor arch is now the entrance to Torwood Mount from the Babbacombe Road.

The writer already quoted (Mr. Swete) adds: "The

manor of Tor, including this estate and several others, by sale, passed from the hands of Lord Donegal near thirty years ago (1768) into those of Sir Robert Palk. At that period he had just returned from the East Indies, where, as Governor of Madras, he had acquired a princely fortune. He purposed settling down here, but a few of Mr. Cary's fields, which, by a Ridgeway, had been separated from the Torwood estate* interfering with the demesne, being almost contiguous to the house, and unattainable, prevented his settling, and induced him to purchase Haldon House. What Torwood might have been, had Sir Robert Palk fixed on it for his residence, those may form some judgment who are acquainted with the state of Haldon previous to the improvements."

A few interesting glimpses of Torquay during the last century are afforded by the family papers at Torre Abbey. John Cary, writing to his father, Mr. Edward Cary, in London, under date April 3rd, 1715, says: "I was yesterday at Sir Thomas Carew's, when Lady Carew asked very kindly for you and my brother, and her ladyship drank your health in a glass of wine, as did all the rest of the company. And I hear that there was a highwayman who robbed on Halldown, and has robbed a man of Newton of ten pounds, but we do not hear that he hath robbed any one else. This day there came into Torbay five or six Swedish men-of-war, among which one has a white flag."

Shortly after this, the brother referred to above, named George, aged eighteen, was called upon to attest certain matters of a delicate nature, in sundry depositions in Chancery relating to the stolen match between Samuel, son of Samuel Isacke, the chamberlain of Exeter, and Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Edward Cary. Samuel is represented to have been "an attorney of no estate, except one little house, worth about 40*s.* a-year, in the said city." As Mr. Edward Cary was a widower, his daughter Ann, when she grew up, naturally became the female head of the

* The grounds on which the Natural History Society's Museum and Wesley Church now stand.

establishment, and directed its affairs. Among the guests was Master Samuel, for whom Mr. Cary had no particular liking, as he had some suspicion that the young gentleman, who was fonder of field sports than his profession, replenished his purse by successful play at the gaming table. Isacke, however, succeeded in gaining the affections of Mistress Ann, who was about twenty-three years of age, notwithstanding the discouragements of her father; and as their engagement became the subject of village gossip, they accomplished a secret marriage—the bride going back and resuming her place at the head of the household, just as if nothing unusual had occurred. Mr. Cary had occasion, shortly after, to pay a visit to his friend Lord Clifford at Ugbrooke. Early one winter morning, before the break of day, a maid-servant, on going to her work, found that a back door leading to a cellar was open. Enquiries were made, and it was discovered that Mistress Ann's chamber was vacant. There was an extinguished candle in the recess of the window, and by it a letter addressed to her father. John Jeffery, a young farmer of Torre, was immediately sent off with the letter to Ugbrooke, and Mr. Cary was thus apprised of what had happened:—"Sir,—The cause of my disobedience is love, and therefore I hope you will pardon me, for I was some time since married to Mr. Isacke, and cannot in conscience tarry any longer from him.—I am, your dutiful daughter, Ann Isacke."*

The good people of Torre were much disturbed, about 1735, by the mischievous doings of Bampfylde Moore Carew. Born of a good family, he ran away from school at the age of fifteen, cast in his lot with the gipsies, and in the course of his vagrant life went through numberless adventures. On one occasion, dressed as a sailor, he went to the officers of customs at Exeter, and declared that he had just deserted a vessel which had run a cargo of contraband goods, and, as he had been ill-treated by the master, was determined to be revenged. He was much commise-

* Mr. R. Dymond's Paper on the Pedigree of the Cary Family.



Drawn by P. Bedford. Directory Co., Lith.

TORQUAY, 1780.

rated by the officers, to whom he artfully conveyed the information that the illicit merchandise was secreted in the cellars of Torre Abbey and Cockington. Taking horse, and accompanied by Carew, they rode on to Newton, and as evening had advanced they remained there the night, enjoying the best the town could provide, anticipating with delight the prize that would fall into their hands the next day. Torre was reached in due course, and the magistrates and constables were called upon to give their aid. But there was a decided reluctance on their part to act, for Mr. Cary was regarded with affection by the parishioners at large. However, nothing could over-ride the warrant produced by the Crown Officers to institute a search on sworn information, and the constables were unwillingly obliged to obey. The horses were secured to the garden rails, and the men proceeded on what proved to be a fruitless search. But while so employed, Carew leaped upon the best of the horses, galloped back to Newton, there regaled himself to his heart's content, rode on to Exeter, sold the horse, and disappeared with the proceeds, leaving the discomfitted officers to return with the best grace they could present.

The old town of Fleete appears to have been fairly provided with houses of entertainment "for man and beast," as the words of the license run, for in 1770 there were five hostelries, namely, the *London Inn*, near the site of the *Royal Hotel*; the *Shallop*, now the *Yacht Hotel*, on Victoria Parade; the *Crown and Anchor*, now the *Crown*, in Swan Street; the *Old Inn*, which was situated where the new premises of Mr. Slade and Mr. Murray now stand, on Victoria Parade; and the *Bird-in-Hand*, afterwards called the *London Inn*, occupying the ground of the last three houses on the western side of Fleet Street. The motto of the latter was,—

"A bird in hand is better far,
Than two birds in the bushes are."

The landlady, Mrs. Betty Cole, as some of the old gossips declare, acted on the moral of the distich above her door in a literal sense, for she never gave credit.

CHAPTER THE TWELFTH.

Period, 1800 to 1815.—Threatened Invasion of England by Napoleon.—Preparations for sending the Women and Children of Torquay to Dartmoor.—The French Fleet evading Nelson.—Napoleon's Designs thwarted.—Planting the Great Tree.—Ship-building in Lower Terrace.—Wreck of the Venerable.—The Village Schoolmaster.—Dame Hutchings and the Miller.—First Public Bakery.—Land Leased on Easy Terms.—The Princess of Wales in Torquay.—Items from the Churchwardens' Books.—Notes from the Vestry Book.—Gleanings from the Manor Court Records.

TO come down to the present century: the elevation of Napoleon Bonaparte to the Consulate in 1800 inspired universal alarm. Utterly paralysed as the navy of France was by its sanguinary contests with the navy of this country, Napoleon desired to make peace with England. The eloquence of Burke, however, inspired his countrymen with a stern determination to war against the Revolution, and, as a consequence, Napoleon prepared for the invasion of England. The utmost activity and watchfulness soon prevailed along the coasts and at the dockyards. As an illustration of the celerity with which, even at that time, ships could be despatched to sea, it may be mentioned that in the spring of 1802 there was a fleet of thirty sail, including fifteen three-deckers, under Admiral Cornwallis, lying in Torbay. On the 3rd of March an express arrived at Torquay, on which the Admiral ordered the *Edgar*, *Excellent*, *Magnificent*, *Bellerophon*, *Robust*, and *Audacious*, all 74-gun ships, to be victualled and stored for five months, and to proceed immediately to sea. The dispatch used on the occasion was so great, that in less than twenty-four hours

the ships in question sailed from Torbay. In 1803 the premeditated attack was to take place. Orders were received by the local magistrates to make every preparation; and the Fencibles, as the Volunteers were then called, were held in readiness, as it was believed that Torbay was the place selected by Napoleon for his descent. While this was going on, plans were devised for removing the inhabitants of Torquay, and their goods, to Dartmoor. The proposed deportation is thus described: "Tormoham, 9th November, 1803.—At a very respectable and numerous meeting of the inhabitants, held at the *Crown and Anchor* on Tuesday, the 8th inst., it was unanimously resolved—1st. That the infirm, and children under the age of eight years, who are incapable of walking ten miles in one day, shall, in the case of an alarm of the enemy, be assembled in three divisions: 1st, Torquay; 2nd, Tor; and 3rd, Upton, at the following places of rendezvous—(1) Baldson (at the head of Abbey Road), (2) Small Hill, and (3) top of Stantaway Hill." Each owner was enjoined to send a horse or cart there, and the meeting concluded with this recommendation, "It was also recommended by the said meeting that those persons who are not employed in any particular service should, immediately on an alarm, meet the Rev. W. Kitson at the church, to consult in what manner they can render the greatest assistance to their neighbours and country." This was signed by William Kitson, superintendent.

Napoleon had collected three thousand vessels of various sizes in the harbour of Boulogne. The descent was to take place as soon as the French fleet could be enabled to command the English Channel for a few days. In order to bring this about, the French fleet were ordered to sail to the West Indies, and to draw Nelson and his ships after them. In a few days they were to make sail back to Europe, before Nelson could return. The secret was well kept, and only one officer, Lord Collingwood, divined it. But the French project was frustrated. Sir Robert Calder,

with an English squadron, met the French near the entrance to the Channel, and at once engaged them; they were by this means driven so far down the wind that there was no chance of regaining their position until Nelson's return, and thus England was saved from the greatest danger to which she had been exposed since the Spanish Armada.

The Channel Squadron, under Earl St. Vincent, continued during the next year to rendezvous in Torbay, but one of the ships met with a disastrous fate. On the 24th of November, 1804, the wind having changed to the east, it was necessary for the fleet to "claw" out of the Bay. Whilst so engaged, the *Venerable*, 74 guns, missed stays when going about, and was driven on shore on the rocks of Roundham Head, between the steep side of the headland and the hospital at Goodrington. She soon went to pieces. Unfortunately, eight lives were lost. Her stores, spars, sails, ammunition, guns, and cables, were saved, and stacked on the sands beyond the reach of the tide. Armed sailors and marines were told off as sentries, to guard the stores, and to prevent strangers approaching within a certain distance. A man named Browse, of Paignton, unconsciously passed the boundary line, and was shot down by the nearest sentry. Browse was obliged to have his arm amputated. At very low tides, copper bolts of the *Venerable* have been picked up within the last few years.

The invasion scare having passed off, the inhabitants devoted themselves to the peaceful pursuits of trade. Shipbuilding was vigorously prosecuted up the creek as far as Cary Place; the fishermen drew up their boats on the Strand; and houses for the accommodation of the growing population sprang up in various directions. It is in the recollection of Mr. William Whiteway, an old resident, that a vessel of 120 tons was launched from the spot where the large elm tree now stands; this elm was planted by John Annis, sixty-five years ago (1812).* As it grew, Mr. Whiteway's father obtained the permission of the Lord of the

* John Annis died in 1856, aged 96 years.

Manor to enclose it with rails, which were maintained in repair by the subscriptions of those who lived in the immediate neighbourhood. Only a few years ago, in making a sewer near by, the workmen dug up some shipwrights' tools. In October, 1869, a large limb on the eastern side of the tree broke off, and the other side was trimmed in order that it might preserve its equilibrium.

An account book which once belonged to the village schoolmaster of Torquay, one Benjamin Edwards, affords some interesting information. Edwards, after having served in the Royal Navy as a teacher, settled first at Tor and then at Torquay, during the latter part of the last century, and established a school in a large room above the Crown Inn, Swan Street, where the youths of Torquay were educated. The book commences in 1802, and the entries end in 1815. It is evidently the last of a series, for there occur such occasional notes as "see other books." To the duties of schoolmaster, Edwards, in the latter years of his life, added that of postman, for on the inside of the back of the book is the following record:—"Aug. 22, 1814—Agreed with Grace Row to carry round the letters at Torquay for five pounds a-year." The names of the boys entered are those of well-known families now residing in Torquay. There are only a few survivors of the school, and among these are Mr. William Whiteway and Mr. T. R. Crockwell. The particulars given in the foot note will no doubt be peculiarly acceptable to many persons in Torquay.*

* Under the date of 1802 occur the following names, together with the terms on which the boys were entered and the fees charged:—Peter Crockwell, William Field, Thomas Gidley, W. Hall, Samuel and John Cockings, John Bickford, John Hannaford, Robert Coose, Thomas Luscombe, Sam Prowse, W. Prowse, Joseph and Charles Raby, George Palk, W. and Thos. Rossiter, "the latter to come in room of William, to fill up the vacancy of his brother, when William is wanted." Mary and Sarah Row, W. Gasking, Richard Wills, and Thos. Couch. The school fees of the latter, it appears, were taken out in half pounds of tobacco, and, to judge from the low price charged, the weed was evidently contraband. In 1803 appear the names of Sarah Abbott, Ann Bowden, Robert Ball, John Crockwell, Thos. Field (to learn navigation), there is a note added that Thomas died in Newfoundland; Ann Field, George Harvey, S. Wadland, John Pope, Richard Short, Sam and Henry Crockwell, Jeffery T. Winsborrow. In 1804, Honour Elliott, Richard Elliott, Elizabeth Elliott, John Howell, Rebecca Cowell, Sam. Waymouth,

A great incentive to the material progress of the town was given by the construction of what is now the inner harbour, by Sir Lawrence Palk, in 1806, under an Act of Parliament, 43 George III. (1803). It was built of limestone from the neighbouring quarries, with the exception of the parapet wall and the top course of the quay, which are constructed of Purbeck stone.

As an illustration of the times, it may be mentioned that the first public oven for baking bread was built some little time before the harbour was begun, for a Mrs. Hutchings, who lived in a thatched cottage near the Queen's Hotel. She was desirous of supplying her neighbours with bread; but while thus animated by a laudable public spirit she was excessively cautious. She thought she would commence her venture with half a sack of flour. The miller, however, of the Castle Mills, Berry Pomeroy, demurred to supply her with less than a sack. "But, suppose," said Dame Hutchings, "I can't sell it?" "Well," replied the accommodating miller, "I'll take back what's left!" Upon these terms the public bakery was started, and it is to be hoped that the old lady found it a profitable undertaking. The quay was then much nearer to the houses, causing the road to be very narrow, and in consequence of this Dame Hutchings's bakery barely escaped destruction; for one night, during a heavy gale from the

Ann Slade. In 1805, John and Samuel Slade, Isaac Sparke Prowse, Thos. Lear, George Allen. In 1813, Edwards had forty day scholars, and in addition kept a night school, which was attended by twenty pupils. In the next year appear the names of Dashper, Henley, Stabb, Swallow, Acutt, Jonathan Hearder, W. Elliott, Sam. Shapley, Sam. Neck, John Gidley, John Shapley, Jas. Shapley, Thos. Mudge Sam. Bridgman, "Temperance Street," Langdon, Mark Whiteway and William Whiteway, the latter to learn navigation, T. R. Crockwell, W. and H. Hearder. Mr. Whiteway has informed the writer that at the time he attended school Edwards was over sixty years of age. Mr. Whiteway states that Edwards's religious views were very broad and tolerant for that time. Edwards was a Protestant, but he married a servant at Torre Abbey who was a Romanist. Lecturing the boys on religion he would say, "It is a pity there are so many different religions, but it all comes to the same in the end. If you rub each cake of paint on your slates you have so many different colours, but mix altogether they come to one, and so it is with religion; all we have to do is to fear God, honour the king, and do our duty to our neighbour."

south-west, a vessel broke from her moorings and drove her bowsprit through the shop, completely demolishing it.

In those early days the building ground on the Strand and in the neighbourhood was offered on very low terms. The land was leased at a certain ground rent on lives, with right of perpetual renewal, and a fixed fine for renewing a life. The fine was about £20. This sum was deemed to be excessive, and, as an alternative, the builders suggested that the fine should amount only to the value of two years' rental. These terms were agreed upon, and many of the houses in the older part of the town were erected on these conditions. This arrangement, however, has proved much more to the advantage of the lessor than the lessee. For example: in the event of a life falling in, a fixed fine of £20 or whatever the sum agreed upon might be, was all the lessee would have had to pay; whereas in the case of two years' rental being the amount, supposing a house is assessed at £500 per annum (and there are at least two houses so rated), the fine for renewing a life would be £1,000. This method of disposing of the land did not last long, and the practice has been to lease the sites for ninety-nine years at a fixed rental, or, as it is termed, "ground-rent."* The whole of the land from the Quay to Daddy Hole was offered to a builder for £40 a-year; and all Waldon Hill might have been had for a yearly rental of £15.

Torquay was honoured in 1806 with a visit by the Princess of Wales, who partook of refreshments in a kind of hut which was known as the Old Furze House, on the Warren, at a time when there was not a house on Waldon

* The dates of some of the leases as here given afford some indication as to the period when the old cottages of Fleete gave place to the more regularly built Strand and quays:—W. Sarell, Strand, 1774; Nicholas Mudge, Quay, 1803; Christopher Gidley, Torwood Street, 1805; W. Harvey (afterwards Gidley's), Torwood Street and Strand, 1805; S. Row, Strand, 1806; Miss Godfrey, Strand, 1808; G. Hearder (afterwards Manning's), the Quay, 1810; W. Havil, Strand, 1810; Jacob Harvey, Higher Terrace, 1811; Dashper, Strand, 1811; Dr. Beeke, Dean of Bristol, two houses, Park Place, 1814; Edward Cary, Strand, 1814; R. Bartlett, Torwood Street, 1810; Mary Rossiter, Lower Terrace, 1815; Jacob Harvey, house on the Quay, 1816; W. Pollard, Baths, 1821; W. Wyatt, Torwood Street, 1818; John Morgan, cottage and garden at Tor, 1783.

Hill.* As a record of the visit, and in allusion to the subsequent political affairs with which she was associated, a tablet was erected in the Furze House with the following inscription :—

> Pause ! stranger, in this favoured cell,
> And list the tale a stone can tell
> Of her, who flew with nuptial care
> To grace the hand of Britain's heir ;
> Who, beauteous alien, found relief—
> Midst publick wrongs and private grief,
> —Not in a nation's fostering care,—
> But in a calm asylum here.

In most parishes the vestry records and churchwardens' books afford a large amount of information, but in Torquay such books relating to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries have either been lost or abstracted, as will appear in a subsequent page.

In the churchwardens' book in the possession of Mr. W. B. Fortescue there are many curious entries, but they go no further back than 1806. The book commences with what seems to be a list of the ratepayers. Under date 1806, among the items of expenditure, is a charge of 3*s.* on account of the "Dean Ruler and Perator" (Dean Rural and Apparitor; "Killing two foxes, 10*s.*;" "Two loads of straw for the Poor House, 4*s.*;" "Defishancy of the rates last year, 10*s.* 6*d.*;" "Defishancy for the ministers, £14 6*s.* 6*d.*;" winding up with "This night's expenses, 15*s.*" In 1808, a charge of £5 7*s.* 11½*d.* was incurred for "The 5th of November;" "Wm. Soper for pricking of the parish books, 11*s.*;" "John Jeffery, killing two foxes, 10*s.*;" "Ditto a badger, 1s.;" "This night's expenses, 10*s.* 6*d.*;" "Fifth of November, 18*s.*" The entries of "Dean ruler and periter" are repeated from year to year with a few variations. In 1811 it is entered as "Dain ruler and Prater;" "Clark's wages, £2 10*s.*;" "Saxon's ditto, 12*s.*" On the fly leaf of the book is a very curious agreement, dated 17th Sept., 1811, by which James Davey and Samuel

* Blewitt's "Panorama of Torquay, 1832. Second ed.

Turner contract to repair the roof of the Church; the wording runs thus, "A Greement be Tween the Porisoners of Tormoham and Samuel Turner and James Davey To Heal* Four Square of New work the Furst Ear, and to heal Three Square per year for Six ears after, and to keep all the Ruft of the Church in good Repare for Six Pounds and Ten shilings per year.

"James Davey.
his
"Samuel X Turner."
mark.

In 1812 appears, "Sexon—a new coat, 15*s.*" In 1815, "Two jurneys to Totness Curt, £1;" "Expence for the iron chest, 12s.;" "A Bill from May for the Baseviol, 19*s.* 4*d.*;" "A new Baseviol, £9." Under the date of 1816 there is paid 2*s.* 6*d.* to the "Peretter" (apparitor), and 2*s.* for badgers. In 1817 is a charge of 2*s.* 6*d.* given to "sailors in distress." And in the following year there are several entries and charges for "bass strings." In 1821—"Postage of letters altering the Litany Proclamation, 9*s.*;" "To one Bottle of Ink for the parson, 6*d.*;" "To killing a fox, 5*s.*;" 1821—"Paid for four Butts to knell on at the vault, 6*s.*;" "Paid the Ringers extra, 5*s.*;" "Clearing snow, 2*s.* 6*d.*;" 1822—"Bishop's visitation and expenses, £1 10*s.*;" "Paid the competitor, 2*s.*,"—apparitor was evidently a word that was not quite clear to the churchwardens' mind. 1823—"To a book to be kept in the Church, by order of the Dean Ruler." 1824—"Jacob Harvey, for drawing plans of the Church, by order of the Dean Ruler, £3 3*s.*" In the same book there is an agreement for the erection of the gallery of the Church: "Torquay, Oct. 29th, 1829—I, William Wish, agree to build the new gallery in the parish church of Tormoham, according to the plans and specifications, for the sum of £117.—Wm. Wish. We, the churchwardens and overseers agree to the above contract. Matthew Mudge, Thomas Luscombe, Churchwardens." In 1832, the cholera

* Healing or Helling is a Devonshire word for slating.

year, there are the suggestive entries of "extra sexon" and "assistant clark." "At a Vestry Meeting held at the Poor House Dec. 11th, 1834, the parishioners consented to the application of £25 towards the erection of an organ in the parish church." 1836—"Paid for Mr. Phillpotts's license, 3*s*. 4*d*." 1838—"Paid Mr. Hall for putting the Church in mourning on the death of William IV., £2 2*s*.;" "Paid for Proclamation of the Queen, 2*s*;" "Money agreed to be allowed for a hot-air stove fixed in the Church, £8." 1839—"Silver cup as agreed for last year, £6 6*s*." The entry of "Killing fox, 5*s*.," is rather frequent, and as the money in most instances is paid to one person, namely, John Jeffery, there is a shrewd suspicion that he was not above importing a fox or two into the parish for the sake of the guerdon. From 1843, when Mr. William Kitson and Mr. J. C. Raby were elected churchwardens, the accounts and entries are systematically arranged.

The parish chest is singularly deficient in old records. The earliest Vestry Book extant commences in 1824. The Overseers appeared to view the rate books and some other documents as their own property; indeed some years ago, when the effects of a parish official were sold by auction, bundles of old parochial records were disposed of as waste paper. The oldest book in the possession of the Overseers is the Register of children, bound and assigned by the parish according to the Act of Parliament passed in the 42nd year of the reign of George III., c. xlvi. (1802), entitled "An Act to require Overseers and Guardians of the Poor to keep a register of the several children who shall be bound or assigned by them as apprentices." The entries commence June 1st, 1802, and the last is August 22nd, 1836. During that period 110 boys and girls, ranging from eight to seventeen years of age, were apprenticed out. The boys were bound until they were twenty-one years old; in the case of the girls there was a broader latitude allowed, for they were bound "till twenty-one or day of marriage." In some cases the amount of money given by

the parish is duly specified, in all others the "fee column" is blank. The sum granted was generally 20*s.*; in some instances it was £3; in a very few, as much as £6; and in one solitary case, £12. The latter sum was granted to Thomas Satchwell, tailor, who took a boy named John Andrews, age not specified, in 1819.

Besides this book there are above one hundred indentures tied together in a bundle; the earliest is dated 1717, and refers to the binding of Mary Sea to "Josias Baker, one of the occupiers of the Barton of Torwood."

According to the Vestry Book the affairs of the parish were managed by a body known as the Select Vestry, in pursuance of the Act of 59 George III., which provided that such vestry may consist of not more than twenty and not less than five substantial householders and occupiers nominated and elected by the ratepayers, "such persons being thereto appointed by writing, and under the hand and seal of one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace." In Torquay the ratepayers availed themselves of the fullest latitude permitted by the Act, and elected twenty persons. The contents of the book refer mainly to the relief of the paupers and the conduct of the Workhouse, formerly the Church-house, the site of which was granted to the parish by one of the Abbots of Torre Abbey. On the 3rd of June, 1824, the Vestry agreed to adopt the regulations in operation at West Teignmouth for the management of the Workhouse; and in the same month it was agreed that "a lock-up house for securing vagrants be built in the Workhouse yard at Tor." Peter and Mary Crockwell were appointed Governor and Governess in 1825, and in the year following the Governor was directed to collect the poor-rate "without being allowed any additional salary for the same." This, however, was revoked in 1832, when John and Mary Tully were appointed Governor and Governess "at a salary of £8 per year!" After the new Governor was well settled in his office, the Vestry induced him to contract for boarding the inmates at 3*s.* 6*d.* per

head per week. It does not appear that the contract was a remunerative one, for it only lasted three months.

The visitation of the cholera in 1832 called forth exceptional exertions on the part of the governing body. On the representations of Sir L. V. Palk and Mr. Cary, both members of the Vestry, a "Board of Health" was formed, consisting of twenty-six gentlemen of Torquay. These were Sir L. V. Palk, Bart., H. G. Cary, Rev. J. Clark, Rev. R. Gee, Rev. R. Hayne, Rev. C. Hayne, Rev. C. Lane, Dr. Scully, Dr. Denmark, Dr. Barry, Dr. Wilmot, W. Pollard, J. Cartwright, W. R. Jolley, and — Blackaller (the last four were surgeons), Admiral Sir C. Dashwood, Rev. P. Leigh, J. Garrow, N. Mudge, Capt. Vivian, George Liddell, Col. Otley, B. Hall, W. Prowse, A. Field, and W. Luscombe. They diligently set to work in carrying out various sanitary matters, and applied to the Government for an Order in Council to sanction their proceedings, but the records are silent as to the answer they received. At their first meeting they obtained a grant of £50 from the Select Vestry. In January, 1833, £250 was voted to the Board of Health "on account of the disease of cholera in the parish." As all danger was now over, the Board of Health were directed to dissolve "as soon as their debts are liquidated." At a meeting held in February the same year, it was resolved "that a double rate be collected immediately for the purpose of defraying the expenses attending the late visitation of cholera morbus, and for other expenses relating to the poor." It appears to have been the practice of the Select Vestry to assess what each person should contribute to the rate in a lump sum at so much per rate, not as now at a fixed amount in the pound. For instance, John Shapley for his house and stabling had to pay 2*s.* 10½*d.*; Jacob Harvey 6*s.* 7½*d.* for each of his houses on Vaughan Parade, 8*s.* 9*d.* for the Beacon Terrace houses, and 11*s.* for Higher Terrace; John Sharland's house, shop, and yard, 5*s.*; Tamlin's house at Balsdon Hill, 1*s.* 7½*d.*; Mayne's House in the Orchard, 7*d.*; Lord Sinclair's land (Pilmuir), 3*s.* 9*d.*

There is an entry dated Aug. 1st, 1833, showing that a general meeting of the ratepayers had been convened, but it was adjourned, the reason assigned being "the parishioners not being able to attend this day, in consequence of the Duchess of Kent landing at Torquay." The churchwardens' meeting convened the same day, was also adjourned for the like reason. A very matter-of-fact resolution passed on the 30th April, 1835, conveys the information that a little waif was disregarded by its parent, and left to the care of strangers; "Resolved, that Thomas Pinsent's account be paid, for keeping a child found at his door, and that the clothes belonging to the child be sent to the Work-house."

The iniquity of the old law of settlement, and the way in which the poor were removed from one parish to another, is illustrated by frequent passages in the minutes of the Select Vestry. Here is an example: At a meeting held on the 24th of November, 1825, it was "resolved, that all families who have been or shall be removed by order of the magistrates to any other parish, shall not be permitted to return to reside again in this parish; and that all who now reside in this parish who have already been removed by order to another parish, shall as soon as possible be compelled to remove from this parish, and that an order of the magistrates be procured to compel this resolution, if they refuse to go by giving them notice."

The vestry meetings were held at various places, at the Work-house, the vestry, the school-room, the London Inn, or some other public house. The churchwardens for the year 1842 were made to feel the responsibilities of their office rather sharply; a person named Snell had been appointed to collect the church-rate, but had failed to pay over the sum of £60 0*s.* 1½*d.*; the parishioners in vestry assembled required the churchwardens to make good the deficiency. The meeting at which this resolution was passed was held on the 7th June, 1842, Mr. Jos. C. Raby in the chair. The vestry meeting held on the 22nd of May,

1846, was not in very good humour, to judge by the resolutions adopted, their equanimity probably having been disturbed by the announcement at the commencement of the business that there was a balance against the churchwardens of £29 7*s*. Retrenchment seems to have been at once resolved upon, for it is recorded "that in consideration of an organ having been erected in the parish church, for the tuning of which the parish have paid, for the future no expense be incurred for the singers." When the Vicar (Mr. John James) proceeded to nominate his churchwarden, he was met by a unanimous resolution, "That this meeting is decidedly of opinion that the right of appointing both Churchwardens is vested in the ratepayers generally, and upon the understanding that a committee shall be forthwith appointed to concert with the incumbent the best means of ascertaining the legal rights of himself and the parishioners, Mr. James for the present withdrew his appointment, and concurred in the joint appointment of Mr. W. Kitson and Mr. Raby by the parishioners and himself." Counsel's opinion was subsequently obtained, and proved to be in favour of the Vicar.

Some curious old items may be gleaned from the Court book of the Manor of Torwood. For instance, at the Court of Torwood, held on the 8th of Oct., 1830, before Mr. Abraham, the steward, the first notice on the record is the following, "We present Joseph Marchetti for making a dung heap in the public street at the back of his premises, and order the same to be removed." At the April Court, 1831, Jacob Harvey is presented* for six houses on the Western Quay" (Vaughan Parade), "and six houses in Beacon Terrace." On the same day James Pope is presented for "a house in Cathole, near Torre" (The Elms). Mr. Greenwood is also presented "for the new chapel"

* The term "presented" means calling attention to, or implies that the person has been entered on the Court Roll as a tenant in respect of some specific property. In this way these entries convey very precise information respecting the growth of the town.

(Trinity Church). Three persons are mentioned as "building in the Commercial Road" (Lower Union Street). In October, 1832, the Dean of Bristol, Dr. Beke, is presented "for his house, late Peek's, in Park Place;" and the entries for that date conclude with the jury's announcement, "We present Christopher Gidley to be continued as Aletaster." In 1833 Carter Godfrey and Richard Lamble were appointed "bread weighers and viewers of weights and measures." On the same occasion the jury record, "We present Mr. J. C. Raby and Mr. William Kitson to be scavengers for the year ensuing for the town of Torquay, from the bottom of Torwood Lane to Ellacombe Lane, and John Mudge to be scavenger for the year ensuing for the road from Torquay to Torwood." This is a somewhat bald way of stating the fact that to these gentlemen was assigned the duty of seeing that the contracts for scavenging entered into were duly performed. In 1834 seven more houses were built in the Lower Commercial Road (Lower Union Street), most of them with garden plots and rails in front; among others, John Bond built in the rope-field, and Joseph Reed was presented "for the Castle Inn, in Binney's Orchard." In 1837 (April), the jury presented John Mudge "for a pound-house and cottage at Upton." In the October Court of the same year Lieut. Charles Williams was presented "for a house at Meadfoot." These juries performed important functions as arbitrators, thus avoiding protracted proceedings at law; for instance, in 1838 the jury were called upon to determine a dispute between two neighbours. The record says: "We present Mr. Bealey's tenant, W. Pyle, for keeping a smith's shop and tinman's shop at his house in Upper Higher Union Street, to the great prejudice of Mr. Nickell's tenant in the house adjoining, and that the same shall be viewed by the jury." At this Court, Mr. W. Kitson's name appears for the first time as steward. In 1839 Messrs. Gidley, Taylor, and Whiteway, trustees, were accepted as tenants "for the chapel in Binney's Brake" (Temperance Street). Mr. Robert

Stark, in October, the same year, was admitted a tenant "for a house on the Strand, late Mr. Cary's." Messrs. Lugg, Smale, and Rossiter, were presented in 1840 for four houses "near the Mill Pond" (Lower Union Street). In the following year there was a presentment on "the evils arising from persons setting fire to their chimneys, or allowing them to take fire, instead of having them properly swept, and recommend that the attention of the Improvement Commissioners be called to the subject."

Mr. Robert Dymond, F.S.A., has communicated to the author the following historical memoranda founded on the Court Rolls and other documents at Torre Abbey:—

"The Rolls of the Court Baron of the Manor of Torre, otherwise Torre Abbey, are mainly confined to the entries of the admission of new tenants, the presentment of encroachments and the appointment of ale-tasters, but here and there occurs a sentence illustrative of the youthful days of Torquay. In the early part of the present century the Courts were held alternately at the Bird-in-Hand (late the London Inn, taken down about a dozen years ago to widen Fleet Street), and at the Swan Inn, in Cane's Lane, now Swan Street. The sign of The Swan (which has of late years been changed for that of The Crown) was adopted in allusion to the crest of the Cary family, as George Street was derived from the Christian name borne by the heads of that family for a whole century down to 1828. The older name of Cane's Lane is still to be found in some of the early leases of building sites in 'The Meadow.' It evidently originated in the fact that a family named Cane occupied a cottage and herb garden there about two centuries ago, as appears by some old rentals of the Cary property. The name of the family disappeared from the books in the middle of the last century, but it still clung to the lane in which they lived, and in 1816 the jury presented Cane's Lane as a nuisance, 'in consequence of the same having dung and other dirt deposited therein.' The Lane

continued to be a source of trouble to the jurors, and in 1818 the practice of leaving timber carts and depositing all sorts of rubbish in this sole means of access to the harbour became so unbearable that they presented 'Mr. John Abbott as a fit person to keep Cane's Lane clear of rubbish until he shall be discharged by order of this Court, and he agrees to accept the office.' In those ante-Local Board days the new houses grew up in advance of general sanitary arrangements, and the inhabitants of 'The Meadow and Cane's Lane and Braddons Row,' finding themselves debarred by the vigilance of Mr. Abbott from getting rid of their dust and ashes as heretofore in the public way, bethought themselves of the mill leat which ran through the meadow down to the sea beach, at what is now Cary Green. They fondly hoped that this convenient watercourse would carry away their dust and ashes, but the Manor jury, in 1819, made a presentment that these deposits were 'a great injury to the property in this Manor, by the overflowing of the leat.' Finding their annual remonstrances of no avail, the jury, in 1824, recommended the adoption of legal measures. But as no one appears to have been patriotic enough to prefer an indictment at the Quarter Sessions, the practice of throwing filth and ashes into the mill leat was continued to some extent, and again formed the subject of complaint at a Court held ten years later. It may be worth while to note, as an indication of the growing importance of the place, that in 1819 the old sign of The Bird-in-Hand gave place to what was probably considered the more dignified title of The London Inn. By 1830 the new turnpike-road to Newton had superseded the older route by Abbey Road, and accordingly, about this time, we find many presentments of tenants of the new houses in Pool Meadow, which is now occupied by that part of Lower Union Street extending from the Town Hall to Temperance Street. In 1832 the Court directed that new weights and measures should be obtained, and that a new pound should be erected, but it does not appear whether

the latter institution was provided in accordance with this order. By this time the number of tenants owing suit and service in respect of new houses had so increased, that the old 'Swan' no longer sufficed for the accommodation of the Courts, and they were regularly held at the London Inn till 1856, since which time the annual dinner has, with one exception, been provided in the large room at the rear of the Union Hotel. In 1837 the houses on the 'New Quay' first became known by their present name of Cary Parade, but their erection dates from 1806. In 1840, Mr. Edward Brown was admitted tenant of the newly-erected chapel, now the School of Art, and Mr. William Pengelly for the school, now the printing establishment of the *Torquay Directory* Company. The last record of the beach now buried under Cary Green appears in 1842, when Mr. John Stooke, timber merchant, of Kingskerswell, paid half-a-crown as an acknowledgment for leave to land timber there. In 1848, Mr. Richard Henley Taylor, the Inspector of Weights and Measures, produced several light weights seized by him within the jurisdiction of this Court, and it was decided that the light weights be thrown into the sea.' This summary process was repeated in the following year. When Andrew Brice, the eccentric printer of Exeter, published his *Grand Gazetteer* in 1774, he mentions under the head of Torbay that 'at Tor-Key is a village and an inn or two.' The growth of the town from that date may be traced with accuracy by a reference to the building leases granted on the two manors. Those of the Cary estate shew that the first houses on 'The Meadow' (George Street) were erected in 1788. At this time the only house near the present Town Hall was Fleet Mill, which was followed in 1789 by Prowse's Brewery. During the succeeding years a few more houses were added in 'The Meadow,' and by the close of the century these became known by the name of George Street. When the present century opened, Waldon Hill was a game preserve, and remained a secluded



TORQUAY FROM STANTAWAY HILL, 1820.

wood for forty years later. No doctor thought it worth while to live amongst the 838 inhabitants of Torquay and Torre. The nearest medical man was Mr. Wm. Browne, who resided in the then superior village of St. Mary-Church, and he had to be summoned by the narrow lanes which passed through Upton, and Westhill. In 1807, a Wesleyan Chapel was opened in Warren Place, which was destroyed to make room for the more imposing buildings right and left of the Torquay Brewing Company's premises. In 1809 the present houses in Swan Street superseded Cane's Cottages in the lane of that name. 1818 witnessed the erection of Braddons House on the ground which is to form the site of an aquarium. In 1822 there was a great accession of public edifices at Torquay; a new market house (now a china warehouse) was erected at the cost of Sir L. V. Palk, from the designs of Mr. Foulston, of Plymouth, the architect of the Royal Hotel and other public buildings of that town. In the month of May, 1815, the foundation stone of a new Chapel-of-Ease (St. John's) was laid by a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Mallock, Mr. Lethbridge being the architect. Mr. Street's handsome new church has swallowed up its quasi-classical predecessor. To the Chapel-of-Ease succeeded in July, 1822, the ball room at the Royal Hotel, described in a contemporary Exeter paper as 'the largest and most splendid building of the sort of any watering place in the West of England.' Private houses were now multiplying apace. Those in Braddons Row (Fleet Street) were in course of erection in this and the two succeeding years and the late Mr. Jacob Harvey was busy in the erection of others on Park Hill. Montpellier Terrace, near St. John's Church, was built in 1823, and in 1824 the older villas on Braddons Hill, including Braddons Cliff, Braganza Cottage (Sir Charles Dashwood's), and Braddons Villa were in course of erection. In 1826, a National School on Bell's system was established near Fleet Mill, at the back of the Union Hotel. A great impetus was given to building operations by the Act 6 George IV.,

for making several roads between Newton Abbot and Brixham, including that now called Fleet Street, Higher and Lower Union Streets, and the Newton Road by Torre Railway Station to Kingskerswell, the road from the Strand at Torquay to Babbacombe and Mary-Church *viâ* Wellswood and Bishopstowe, and also the present Teignmouth Road from Torre to Shaldon, by way of the Coombe Valley and Watcombe. In 1828 Hillsborough House was erected by Mr. Rossiter, on Braddons Hill, and also the houses then opposite the turnpike in Fleet Street, including those in the rear of the present 'Devon Arms,' where the Braddons Lime Kilns had previously stood. In the same year the Royal Hotel was enlarged and partly rebuilt by Sir L. V. Palk, and the Queen's Hotel opposite was established by Mr. Joseph Marchetti. The Union Hotel and the houses on the east side of the Lower Union Street, as far as the Market Street, were erected in 1831-2. In 1833 the Independents built the Chapel in Lower Union Lane, which is now converted into St. George's Hall. The Abbey Road Chapel of the same community was erected in 1850. Orchard Terrace, occupying the place of an orchard on the side of Waldon Hill, and the houses in Waldon Terrace, and those on the west side of Lower Union Street, from the Town Hall to Temperance Street, were in progress between 1829 and 1840. These were followed by the detached houses in a field called Balsdon, opposite the Roman Catholic Church in Abbey Road. Mount Lebanon, the first of the villas overlooking the Rock Walk, was erected by the late Mr. George Thorne, of St. Mary Church, in 1843. The formation of a winding road up the steep side of Braddons Hill furnished sites for the erection of Madrepore Place, and Clifton and Modena Terraces."

CHAPTER THE THIRTEENTH.

Napoleon a Prisoner in Torbay.—Speeding the News.—The Arrival of Yachts and Boats from Adjacent Ports.—The Bellerophon's Boats Rowing Guard.—Presents for the Captive.—The Beautiful Italian.—The Bouquet.—The Language of Flowers.—Recognition by the Emperor.—Peace Rejoicings in Torquay.—The Dinner on Daddy Hole.

ONE of the most stirring events of the present century was the arrival in Torbay of the Emperor Napoleon, a prisoner on board a British man-of-war, and his departure from thence into exile on the island of St. Helena. When the allied forces entered Paris, and the French army declared in favour of Louis XVIII., Napoleon made his way to Rochefort, which he reached on the 3rd of July, 1815, and from whence he intended to take a temporary leave of France. Two frigates, *La Suale* and *La Meduse*, were prepared for his reception, but every avenue of escape was closed against him; eleven British ships of war blockaded the coast in such a manner that no vessel could put to sea without being searched. Several attempts were made by Napoleon to leave France, but all failed. At length he sent on board the *Bellerophon* to solicit permission to pass, as he said he was only waiting for his passports from England; but he was told that the moment the frigates attempted to come out they would be attacked. Bonaparte then proposed to escape in a Danish ship, but that was found to be impracticable, and the attempts to leave in two *chasse-marees* were equally fruitless.

At length, on the 14th of July, Generals Becker and Savary, Count Las Casas, and General Lallemand, were

sent on board the *Bellerophon* to inform Captain Maitland of his desire of throwing himself on the protection of England. But Maitland, with cautious prudence, made these gentlemen clearly understand that he could engage for nothing more than simply to convey Bonaparte to England, there to be received as it might seem best by His Majesty's Government. With this intimation, the ex-emperor was received on board the *Bellerophon* on the following morning, the 15th of July. The persons who accompanied Bonaparte on board consisted of Bertrand, Grand Marshal of the Palace, his wife, and three children, Savary, Duke of Rovigo, General Lallemand, Baron Gourgand, aide-de-camp to Bonaparte, Count Montholon Semonville, his wife and child, Las Casas, Counsellor of State, and his son, several other officers, a surgeon, and a suite of about forty persons. On mounting the deck of the *Bellerophon*, Bonaparte said to the captain, "Sir, I come to claim the protection of your Prince and of your laws."

At two in the afternoon, the *Bellerophon* (accompanied by the *Myrmidon* corvette, which had part of his suite on board), weighed and made sail for England. Calms and contrary winds made the voyage long and tedious. They reached Torbay only on the 24th, and cast anchor in the outer bay, near the Orestone. From Teignmouth Den the masts were just visible over Hope's Nose. Captain Maitland immediately made a signal for general orders, the telegraphic answer to which was "to prohibit all communication with the shore, and to stand out three leagues to sea, and await the orders of the Admiralty."

The ship was soon surrounded with a flotilla of boats and yachts. From Dartmouth, Brixham, Paignton, Teignmouth, Dawlish, Exeter, and Sidmouth, the vessels came up; and as the news flew along the coast, more distant ports sent out crowds of sail, which dotted the whole of the horizon, all hastening to one spot, until Torbay presented just such an animated appearance as is often witnessed on a regatta day. At first, so large was the aggregation of

floating craft that much confusion prevailed; each boat tried to get near the *Bellerophon*, that its occupants might catch a glimpse of the Emperor. So serious did this become, that Captain Maitland ordered the ship's boats to be lowered, and crews being placed in them, they rowed guard round the ship, and kept the eager visitors at a distance, but quite near enough for them to have a view of the quarter deck and the Emperor, who appeared amused and pleased at the interest his presence excited. He was delighted with the scenery, and made repeated enquiries of those who attended him respecting the different places along the coast of which he had such an admirable view. "What a beautiful country!" exclaimed he; "It very much resembles the Porto Ferrajo, in Elba." As he paced the quarter-deck he frequently came to the ship's side and acknowledged the salutations of the visitors. It was calculated that not less than a thousand boats put off daily. Access to the ship was impossible without a special order to that effect, and the boats which were employed to take off provisions from Torquay were jealously guarded through the cordon, and taken to the landing stage. From Torre Abbey and other family seats in the neighbourhood presents of fruit and flowers were sent to the Emperor, who felt deeply sensible of the kindness thus delicately shewn to him.

During the time necessarily occupied by official discussions as to the disposal of Bonaparte, the Emperor continued to reside on board the *Bellerophon*. The number and eagerness of the spectators remained unabated during the whole of this period; and as every one saw with his own eyes, and formed his own conclusions, the accounts thus furnished are interesting, though sometimes various.

One writer says: "Persons from London and other parts are flocking down to Torbay, though they know that Bonaparte is not expected to land, and that they cannot go on board the *Bellerophon*; but they can row in boats round the vessel, and occasionally catch a glimpse of him. He

is the greater part of the day in the stern-gallery, either walking backwards and forwards, with his hands behind him, or surveying the shipping and shore through a glass. In general he keeps alone, Bertrand and Lallemand remaining at some distance behind. Captain Maitland is more frequently with him than any of his suite, and he pays him great attention. He is in good health. He passes but a short time at his meals, and drinks but little wine. Coffee is frequently served up to him on the deck. When he first came near the land about Torbay he is reported to have exclaimed, '*Enfin viola ce beau pays!*' 'At length, here is this fine country!' adding, that he had never seen it except from Calais and Boulogne. . . . All seemed to treat Bonaparte as an emperor, who appeared as one in thought, walking a very steady pace, quite upright, now and then stooping a little to look through the port-holes at the vessels alongside. His person altogether gives one the idea of a strong man. At six o'clock the bell rang, dinner was announced, and he went below, followed by his attendants. Our jolly tars, with their usual good humour, put out a board, chalked, 'He's gone to dine.' He remained, however, not much above half-an-hour, when another board announced his reappearance on the deck, where he resumed his walk in the same spot, occasionally with a child, and conversing with Bertrand or the ladies: he continued walking till dusk, when the view of this extraordinary man was closed to our countrymen, as the ship sailed at five the next morning for Plymouth."

The conduct to be observed with respect to a prisoner such as Bonaparte was an important subject of consideration for the British Cabinet. His rank and character were equivocal, for he had been left by the Treaty of Paris an emperor in title, and the sovereign of Elba in fact; so that he might (as he did) lay a plausible claim to the rights of an independent prince, conquered in lawful war. It was, however, determined in the councils of the Confederate Sovereigns that the Island of St. Helena should be his place *of* exile, where he was to reside under their joint inspection.

The papers of Sunday, July 30th, announced the determination of sending Bonaparte to St. Helena; and as he regularly enquired for them, that part did not long escape his notice. Indeed, it was now publicly spoken of by every one. In the evening he showed marks of much agitation in his countenance; but some of his suite were more seriously affected. About nine o'clock, as Marshal and Madame Bertrand were walking on the deck in earnest conversation, suddenly Madame rushed into the Emperor's cabin, flung herself at his feet for about half-a-minute, then, flying below to her own cabin, threw herself nearly out of the stern-window, when she was fortunately caught by General Montholon. She, however, continued delirious the whole night. Notwithstanding that the news greatly affected him, he continued to show himself for about twenty minutes each evening, to the really astonishing number of people, which daily increased. It was with great difficulty the men-of-war boats could prevent the crowd approaching too near the ship.

Whilst lying in Torbay, a singular incident occurred, which is thus graphically and eloquently narrated by an eye-witness: "The boats were rowing slowly round and round the *Bellerophon*, with crews, it may be said, of devouring eyes. In one, from Torquay, was a lady, wrapped, even in that warm weather, in a long mantilla. Her veil was closely drawn, and she evidently avoided observation. She was alone with a servant, and, notwithstanding the effort at concealment, her whole bearing betrayed a foreign origin. That rare elegance with which the shawl or mantilla is adjusted, and the grace that manipulated the light fluttering of a veil, belong to those who have made secrecy a law of social existence, and have converted an arrangement of colours into a language that more than speaks. She was a regal creature, moulded in that Giorgione form of voluptuousness, which embodies an epic of real and surpassing loveliness, and which, 'glowing and circumfused in speechless love,' makes the entranced gazer, 'reeling in its

fulness,' turn away, 'dazzled and drunk with beauty.' By her side lay a choice bouquet. It was not an ordinary nosegay; the flowers had been cut short, tied on a stick or handle, and ranged in particular rows, and after a peculiar fashion—

"By all the token flowers that tell
What words can never speak so well."

The boat approached slowly, nearer and nearer, and then became stationary. The servant was despatched in another with the bouquet, and reached the accommodation-ladder. Up it went with its special direction. The lady watched every movement with an eagerness and anxiety that stirred tremulously the mantilla and veil. You might almost fancy that you could hear the beating of her heart. The nosegay was passed onwards on the main deck, and reached the stage leading to the quarter deck. Then, in an agony of expectation, the lady lifted her veil, disclosing one of those glorious countenances that the sunny south produces, which 'now melt into sorrow, now madden to crime,' those who are spell-bound and possessed by the charms of this exceeding beauteousness.

"Napoleon, at first, received and laid aside the bouquet without particular notice; but, looking at it again, he seized it suddenly, paused a moment, and then came hastily to the side of the ship. Shading his eyes with his hand, with a look of intensity that seemed to penetrate and transfix by its keen glance the object of regard, he caught at last in its range the bright vision he sought for. What a look of mingled emotion! The grey eye was fixed, full and fervidly, in an earnestness of devotion; one long, lingering gaze, soft and fond, yet tinged with a passing shade, as if memory had performed for the moment an unwelcome duty. At that instant he was no longer a conqueror. Then came back the stern expression; and with the rapid fingers of his delicately-shaped hands he gave, precipitately, the signal message that was so hoped and longed for. Once more—a second, and in the next

the boat was bounding over the blue water on its way back to Torquay. It was the last that the great Emperor ever saw of the beautiful Italian. Jealousy separated them; she was not permitted to accompany him to St. Helena, and the mighty conqueror became obedient to the will of a worn-out harridan." *

The last evening that he made any conspicuous appearance on the gangway was on Tuesday, 1st of August, when he came to the ship's side only for a short time. On Wednesday, the 2nd, the *Bellerophon* and *Tonnant* proceeded to Plymouth, where it was understood the Emperor would be transferred to H.M.S. *Northumberland*. The *Bellerophon* and *Tonnant*, however, sailed from Plymouth Sound on the 4th, to avoid a writ of *habeas corpus*, and thus it happened that the great historical event of Napoleon being banished into exile occurred on the waters of Torbay instead of at Plymouth Sound. There was also another reason, namely, that in consequence of the vast concourse of boats in Plymouth Sound, several lives were lost. The *habeas corpus* writ referred to was a subpæna from the Court of King's Bench, obtained by Mr. Mackenrol, who had a cause pending in that Court, in which he required the evidence of Napoleon and Jerome Bonaparte, and Admiral Villaumez. No doubt means might have been found for rendering such an important document ineffective, yet it was thought best to avoid it by a side wind. The ships were ordered to Torbay; and the officer arrived with his subpæna at the house of Sir John Duckworth a few minutes after the *Bellerophon* had sailed.

H.M.S. *Northumberland* sailed from Portsmouth on the same day (the 4th), and on nearing Torbay, on Sunday, the 6th, perceived two line-of-battle ships approaching her, which proved to be the *Bellerophon* with Bonaparte on board, and the *Tonnant* with Lord Keith. In a few hours the squadron anchored in Torbay. Immediately after the vessels had brought up, Sir Henry Bunbury, accompanied

* Bailey's Magazine.

by the Hon. Mr. Bathurst, charged with the communication of the result of the Government to Bonaparte, were conveyed from Torquay on board the *Bellerophon* by Lord Keith's yacht. Sir Henry read to him the resolution of the Cabinet, by which he was informed of his intended transportation in a different ship to the island of St. Helena, with four of his friends, to be chosen by himself, and twelve domestics. He received this intimation without any mark of surprise, as he said he had been apprised of the determination, but he protested against it in the most emphatic manner; and in a speech of three quarters of an hour, delivered with great coolness, self-possession, and ability, reasoned against the proceeding.

On the afternoon of Sunday, the 6th, Lord Keith and Sir George Cockburn went on board the *Bellerophon*, and were received by Bonaparte, who was dressed in a green coat with red facings, two epaulets, white waistcoat and breeches, silk stockings, the star of the Legion of Honour, and a *chapeau bras* with the three-coloured cockade. After the usual salutations, Lord Keith, addressing himself to Bonaparte, acquainted him with his intended transfer from the *Bellerophon* to the *Northumberland*, and conveyance in that ship to St. Helena. He appeared very uneasy at the communication, and, after a long expostulation, sternly refused to go; but, on Lord Keith observing that such was the order of his Government, and that he hoped he should not be under the necessity of resorting to coercive measures. Bonaparte replied "Oh! no, no! you command, I must obey! You may take me; but recollect I do not go with my own free will." It was then arranged that the transfer should take place on Monday morning, the 7th, at ten o'clock.

Early that morning Sir George Cockburn went on board the *Bellerophon*, to superintend the inspection of Bonaparte's baggage, &c. Among other things, were two services of plate, several articles in gold, a superb toilet of plate, books, beds, &c. The sum of 4,000 gold Napoleons was all the

money found, and this was despatched on board the *Northumberland*. Bonaparte had brought with him from France about forty servants. As soon as his luggage had been removed from one ship to another, the parting scene commenced, and was very affecting. At half-past eleven, Lord Keith, in the barge of the *Tonnant*, went on board the *Bellerophon* to receive the fallen emperor and those who had resolved to share his fate. Bonaparte, before their arrival and afterwards, addressed himself to Capt. Maitland and the officers of the *Bellerophon*. After descending the ladder into the barge, he pulled off his hat to them again. Lord Keith received in the barge the following personages, Bonaparte, General Bertrand and Madame Bertrand, with their children, Count and Countess Montholon and child, Count Las Casas, General Gourgand, nine men, and three women servants. The barge slowly approached the *Northumberland*. A captain's guard of marines was arranged on the poop to wait his arrival, with orders to present arms, and the drum to beat the roll thrice, the usual salute to a general officer in the British service. When the barge of the *Tonnant* reached the *Northumberland*, the quarter-deck was covered with officers, and there were also some individuals of rank who had posted down to Torquay from motives of curiosity, to view the parting scene. The marines occupied the front of the poop, and the officers kept the quarter-deck. A general silence prevailed when the barge reached the side; and there was a grave but anxious aspect in all the spectators, which added to the solemnity of the ceremonial. Count Bertrand ascended first, and, having bowed, retired a few steps to give place to his master, and in whose presence he appeared to feel that his most respectful homage was still due. Lord Keith was the last to leave the barge. As an illustration of the wrapt attention of all on board to the figure of Napoleon, it may be observed that high as Lord Keith stood in naval character, Admiral also of the Channel fleet, and arrayed in the full uniform of his rank, with the decorations of his

order, he did not seem to be noticed nor scarcely even to be seen among the group which was actually subsidiary to him.

With a slow step Bonaparte mounted the gangway, and on feeling himself firm on the quarter-deck he raised his hat when the guard presented arms and the drums rolled. The officers of the *Northumberland*, who were uncovered, stood considerably in advance. These he approached, and saluted with an air of the most affable politeness. He then addressed himself to Sir George Cockburn, and said, "*Je suis à vos ordres.*" After taking leave of the officers who accompanied him from the *Bellerophon*, and embracing the nephew of Josephine, who was not going to St. Helena, he went into the after-cabin, where, besides his principal companions, were assembled Lord Keith, Sir George Cockburn, Lord Lowther, Mr. Lyttelton, and others.

After waiting for the *Weymouth*, store ship, and some other vessels destined to compose the little squadron, the whole finally sailed from Torbay on the 11th of August.

The proclamation of peace soon followed the deposition of Napoleon, and universal were the rejoicings thereon. His exile to a solitary rock in the Atlantic gave assurance of rest to Europe. In Torquay the festivities commemorating peace were on a grand scale, for it was celebrated by a public dinner on Daddy Hole Plain, and an *al fresco* dance, in which all classes heartily joined.* It is a remarkable coincidence that to the historic bay, on the shores of which the Emperor designed to land an invading army, he should himself have been brought a prisoner;† and still more remarkable that in later years his nephew, after ruling for eighteen years over the same nation, should have spent some of his last days in exile near the same spot.

* Mr. Charles Kitson recently informed the writer that his sister, Mrs. Hole (a lady greatly beloved for her beneficent work among the people of Bovey Tracey, where she resides), danced with Butcher Duder, of St. Mary-Church, who was dressed as the Duke of Wellington.

† The portrait of Napoleon, from a drawing by his Chamberlain, Lieut.-Col. De Planet, while on board the *Bellerophon*, with a view of Berry Head and the *Bellerophon* at anchor, was published soon after this event; the pictures are now very scarce.

CHAPTER THE FOURTEENTH.

The Growth of Torquay.—The Building of the Market, 1820.—The Duke of Clarence in Torbay.—The Princess Victoria landing at Torquay.—Applying for the Improvement Act of 1835.—Constitution of the Town Commissioners.—A Flaw in the Act.—The First Meeting, "William Kitson the younger in the chair."—The Commissioners at work.—Opposition in the Town.—The Old Watch-house.—Lighting the Town with Gas.—Building the Torbay Road.—Former Sea Walls.—Sands.—Submarine Forest.—The Old Horse Roads.—The Mill Leat.—The Debatable Land.—An Ingenious Device.



T may be gathered from the preceding pages that during the first quarter of the present century Torquay was in a transition state—emerging from the condition of a quiet village into a thriving, fashionable town. In order that Torquay might properly be supplied with provisions, Sir L. V. Palk erected a public market in 1820 where the Rotunda now stands—in fact the Rotunda itself is what remains of the Old Market. The building formed a complete circle with only one entrance towards the Strand. The centre was an open space. The stalls or shops were by no means capacious, and beyond them extended a colonnade supported by crude and heavy columns of red sandstone. Several chestnut trees grew in the centre, and the old market is said to have had very much of a continental aspect about it.

Sir L. V. Palk in 1825 obtained an Act of Parliament for establishing certain leases which he had granted of various parts of "the Manor of Tormohun, otherwise Tormoham, otherwise Tormoone, otherwise Tormoun," parcels of his settled estates, and for enabling him to grant leases of other parts of the said manor and for other purposes.

The preamble recites the indentures of lease and release of the 10th and 11th of May, 1792 (being the settlements made previously to the marriage of Sir L. V. Palk and Lady Dorothy E. Vaughan), and after setting forth at great length various family arrangements, the Act goes on to say that in consequence of certain covenants being introduced into some of the leases not warranted by the recited powers of leasing, and by reason of the insertion of new lives in others at times and in a manner not warranted, and also by a greater quantity of land being included in others than might be considered warranted, and by reason in some cases of a reservation of rent payable upon such leases not being in strict conformity with the said powers of leasing, and on other accounts, doubts had arisen as to the validity of the said leases; and whereas Sir L. V. Palk is desirous that the doubts which have so arisen on the title of the several leases or persons claiming under them, many of whom have expended considerable sums of money in such buildings and improvements, should be removed, and that all the said leases should be established, together with the benefit to the respective lessees of such covenants for renewal as are therein respectively contained; be it enacted that the leases, &c., &c., be established . . . with power to Sir L. V. Palk, or other person in remainder, to grant leases of the lands comprised in the agreement specified in the schedules to the Act," general leasing powers, &c.

The passing of the Act proved a considerable incentive to building operations, for in 1828 Marchetti's Family Hotel (the Queen's) was established, and the Royal Hotel was enlarged and partly rebuilt; Park Place was built in 1828; and Mr. Jacob Harvey, with a keen perception as to the future of the rising town, built Beacon Terrace, Vaughan Parade, and Palk Street, commencing in 1831, and afterwards Higher Terrace.

Royalty honoured Torquay with its presence on two occasions in 1828. On the 20th July, William IV., then

Duke of Clarence, visited Dartmouth. On the following day, on board the *Lightning* steamer, accompanied by the steam vessel *Meteor* and five revenue cruisers, he proceeded to Torbay, where he was met by a large number of yachts. After landing at Brixham he came over to Torquay, but did not land, although preparations were made for his reception; and, after steaming round the Bay, he proceeded to Plymouth. In the following month, August 1st, Queen Adelaide, then Duchess of Clarence, arrived here. Great demonstrations were made on the occasion, and an address was presented to her by the inhabitants. The South Devon Yeomanry Cavalry, under Sir Warwick Hele Tonkin, formed her escort.

A still greater honour was conferred upon the town on the 1st of August, 1833, when the Duchess of Kent, accompanied by her daughter, Princess Victoria (now Her Most Gracious Majesty), arrived off the harbour in a yacht. Although the visit was unexpected, the inhabitants received the distinguished visitors with due honours. The Duchess, with the youthful Princess, then fourteen years of age, were rowed to the harbour in a galley, and landed at the higher steps, opposite the Civet Cat. The landing place was covered with cloth, and decorated for the occasion. There were crowds of people, whom the coastguard of the district, hastily summoned together, had some difficulty in keeping back. The school children were drawn up in processional order, and formed a lane from the steps to the Royal Hotel, where the Duchess and Princess made a short stay. The Royal party afterwards proceeded to Babbacombe, and visited Mrs. Whitehead. Subsequently, the Duchess received a number of the resident gentry at the Royal Hotel. The proceedings were marred, however, by an accident. At the moment of landing, a bootmaker, named Dart, endeavoured to pass through the cordon, in order to present the Princess with a pair of boots. In the struggle he was wounded in the eye by one of the coastguard with his bayonet, and lost his sight. The Duchess directed the man

to be sent to a hospital, and not only defrayed the expenses of his treatment, but granted him an annuity. In commemoration of the event, the place where the Princess landed was named Victoria Parade.

When the population might be counted by the hundred, the authority exercised by the Select Vestry, the Magistrates, the Lords of the Manors, and the Manor juries, was sufficient to control and direct parochial affairs, but when the number of the inhabitants rose in 1831 to three thousand five hundred, it was found that the powers of those primitive and sometimes antagonistic governing bodies were utterly inadequate either for sanitary purposes or the maintenance of order. Tenants built their houses without the slightest attempt at preserving a uniform street front; they seemed actuated only by the desire to make the most of the piece of ground allotted to them, and sanitary precautions were not thought of. The result was, that along the leat or stream which ran down the Fleet valley, and in the lane leading to the Torwood Grange, there were houses, cottages, and gardens, that projected angularly into the thoroughfare; others receded from the road, leaving waste spaces in front, whilst the leat in particular was made the common receptacle for refuse. Under these circumstances, in the autumn of 1834 meetings were held at Batt's Royal Hotel, when it was determined to apply to Parliament for "an Act for lighting, watching, and improving the parish of Tormohun, in the county of Devon." The preamble is as follows: "Whereas, the parish of Tormoham, in the county of Devon, has lately become a place of great resort, and the population and buildings of the same parish have lately much increased and are still increasing, and it would be a great advantage and convenience to the inhabitants thereof and the public if proper provisions were made for lighting, watching, paving, cleaning, and otherwise improving the streets and other public places within the said parish, and for removing and preventing nuisances and annoyances, and preserving the peace and

good order therein; but the same cannot be done without the aid and authority of Parliament: May it therefore please your Majesty that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and counsel of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in the present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the persons by this Act to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned, shall be the Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution." The various powers sought for are detailed at considerable length. The Act enjoined the election of eighteen Commissioners, one-third to retire every year; and gave power to build a lock-up, a store-house, engine-house, and pound; "also to employ able-bodied watchmen, night constables, street keepers, and other persons, as they shall think fit, for the protection of the inhabitants and property within the said parish, by day and by night, and to provide watch-houses, watch-boxes, and places for the reception of such persons." The Commissioners also had power to light the streets "with gas, oil, or otherwise."

The Act, however, was soon found to be defective, inasmuch as the clauses prescribing the mode of distraining and recovering the rates authorised to be levied, in case of refusal or non-payment, by reason of the alterations and amendments made during its progress through the House of Commons, had been omitted. A short Act was therefore introduced the same Session, correcting the error, and the amended Act received the Royal assent on the 31st of August.*

The first meeting of the Commissioners was held on the 3rd of August, 1835 (the Royal assent to the amended Act being evidently discounted as certain), "Mr. William Kitson the younger" being in the chair. Among the officers appointed were George E. Hearder, clerk, and Charles Kilby;

* The cost of obtaining the Act was £501 0*s.* 2*d.*; the local agents employed were Messrs. Abraham and Kitson, the former being steward to the Torwood Manor.

the latter united in his own person the functions of "principal constable, surveyor, and collector of rates." Two subordinate constables were also appointed, and this constituted the police force of Torquay. The Commissioners held their meetings in the Watch-house, where the Town Hall at present stands. It had a long narrow porch on the Abbey Road side, and was protected by iron rails. At the second meeting, the new governing body commenced work in earnest. For two or three years the fortnightly meetings were well attended; but at length the zeal of the Commissioners slackened a little, as an examination of the minute book shows that on several occasions three meetings in succession were adjourned because the only person in attendance was the Clerk. Possibly, this may have been caused by the opposition with which the orders of the Commissioners were often met. Injunctions and orders were served on the owners of property in various parts of the town to pave the footpaths in front of their premises, but at meeting after meeting attempts were made, and sometimes successfully so, to revoke them. Some of these contentions lasted several months, and ended by the Commissioners doing the work and recovering the expenses by summary proceedings before the magistrates. It sounds oddly now to learn that a proposal to pave the footpaths on the Strand, Victoria Parade, and Beacon Terrace, was vehemently objected to.

One of the first acts of the Commissioners was to provide forty lamps in the principal thoroughfares, which the Gas Company undertook to supply during eight months in the year at £3 3*s.* per lamp. This seems to have been a very moderate charge, seeing that at the same time private consumers were paying 12*s.* 6*d.* per thousand feet. Tor did not share in this tolerably liberal distribution of public lights, for early in 1836 it appears that an application was made to the Gas Company "to know whether they are willing to lay down pipes up as far as Tor, and to what extent;" the reply was a favourable one, the only condition being that the Commissioners should give a larger order.

Some months after there were public lamps put up (chiefly bracket) "from the Castle Inn to Tor." It says much for the public spirit of Torquay that a company should have been established as early as 1834.* Gas was but sparely burnt in London in 1814; the Plymouth Gas Company was established in 1824, and Exeter in 1817. The works were situated at the head of the Public Gardens, and for many years no dividends were paid, the manufacture of gas not being so profitable then as now.

At this time the only access to the Torre Abbey Sands, and they were really worthy of the name—firm, hard sand, from six to eight feet in depth—was by the Rock Walk, and as it was held "of the first importance to Torquay to have a communication with Torre Abbey Sands under Waldon Hill," this was "represented to Mr. Cary, in the hope of his according to the general wish of the inhabitants, and that he be requested to state whether and on what terms he would allow it." Mr. Cary was greatly averse to the proposal. Soon after this, the boundary of the Green, which reached up to the houses in Cary Parade, was set back, and in five years after, in 1840, the Turnpike Trustees commenced the Torbay Road. A strong opposition was offered by the owner of Torre Abbey, on the ground that the road would destroy the privacy of his residence. It was originally intended to have made the road further to seaward, but in consequence of the opposition with which the scheme was met, the Trustees carried it inside Mr. Cary's boundary wall, leaving a strip of land outside. It was commenced in September, 1840, was built in sections, and was completed in eighteen months, at a cost of about thirteen thousand pounds. Before this important highway was constructed, the only communication between Torquay and Paignton was through the Meadow (Fleet

* The first lighting up of Torquay with gas appears to have been a memorable event, and accordingly evoked the latent genius of the local poet, who commemorated it in a poem, more interesting at this date for its reference to people living on the Strand than for the smoothness of its rhythm or the style of its diction. As a curiosity it is given in the Appendix.

Street), by the Rope Walk, in the Orchard (Abbey Road), along the boundary wall of Torre Church, past the village smithy, which stood at the corner of the ground taken up by the Temporary Church of All Saints at the junction of the roads, down Old Mill Lane, and along a narrow lane to the end of the present Torbay Road. A hollow elm tree at the turn leading to the Torquay railway station indicates the situation of the old thoroughfare. Indeed, a portion of the old lane may still be traced in the adjoining piece of ground, as defined by a couple of hedges, hardly wide enough to allow a cart to pass. On the opposite side of the little bight formed by Corbon's Head, is the corresponding portion of the lane, which a boat-builder has recently converted into a slipway for boats, the intermediate land having been destroyed by the encroachments of the sea. The lane then continued across fields outside the present sea wall at Livermead, and up the left side of Livermead hill. Portions of this old deserted road were added to the adjoining fields in 1876. The turnpike roads of this district, which had the reputation of being the best in Devonshire, were all made since 1820.* To Paignton, Newton, St. Mary-Church, or Teignmouth, there was no better approach than the old Devonshire lanes, which invariably sought the most hilly and circuitous route. The debt incurred by the Trustees, including the Torbay Road, amounted to £33,000, which was advanced by a few spirited individuals when success was extremely doubtful, and with the certainty of never receiving more than a low fixed rate of interest, some of the bonds bearing only four per cent.; hence the necessity for high tolls and the obnoxious gate in the middle of the town, which brought in £1,355 a-year, out of an income of £3,730 (1846). The Torbay Road was considered to be a great undertaking at the time, but the growing requirements of Torquay rendered it a necessity, and hence the Turnpike Trustees resolved upon making it without delay.

* In 1821 the Torquay Turnpike Trust was amalgamated with the Dartmouth Trust.

The Rev. T. Kitson lately described the opening up of the district by the formation of good roads. About the year 1814, a far-seeing friend predicted to the late Sir L. V. Palk that at some time, not far distant, Torquay would become a large and fashionable watering place. Trusting to his sound advice, the lord of the manor commenced some improvements, and contemplated others, but with scarcely any appreciable results. The baronet applied to another friend, saying, "I am spending all this money because the Dean of Bristol tells me the people will come here, but they do not come; what can I do more than I have done?" "Make a road," replied his friend; "the place is inaccessible." "How is that to be accomplished?" asked Sir L. V. Palk. "Meet me," answered the gentleman, "to-morrow morning at Chapel Hill, and bring George Pearse, the woodman, and some stakes with you." The appointment was kept, and the Newton Road was staked out. At that time there were two distinct Trusts—Torquay and the Dartmouth and Brixham Trusts, both in a state of insolvency, and quite unequal to any great undertaking. It was proposed by some of the Trustees to unite the two, and to apply to Parliament for an Act, which in due time was obtained, and a very influential body of Trustees was appointed—men who had the welfare and improvement of the neighbourhood at heart. The completion of the Newton Road soon produced a great effect on Torquay; and afterwards, taking advantage of the Teignmouth Bridge, it was resolved to construct a road to Shaldon, that visitors might not be stopped on their way to Torquay. Then roads were made to Paignton, Brixham, and Dartmouth, and lastly the Torbay Road.

It is worthy of observation that the Torbay Road is at least the third defence which has been raised against the encroachments of the sea. The wall built by Mr. Cary was partially destroyed in 1824; and previously to the erection of that, the original wall was much further out. The construction of the present very popular promenade brought

to light a few facts of much interest to the geologist and the antiquary. When the perpendicular wall was reared to resist the onslaught of the advancing waves, these, having no gradual slope on which to expend their force, drew away in their receding surges the broad and beautiful sands. The result was that the beach was completely stripped, the physical denudation effected by the sea being accelerated by the builders, who carried off the sand to make mortar with. Thus was brought to light the remains of a forest, the existence of which, though often suspected, was as frequently disputed. Leland, in the reign of Henry VIII., as quoted in a former chapter, speaks of the finding of "musons of hartes, whereby men judge that yn tyme paste it hath be' foreste grounde." As late as 1832, Mr. Octavian Blewitt, in his *Panorama of Torquay*, says: "In rough weather, roots of trees, buried in the sands, are frequently exposed; this has given rise to the absurd opinion that Torbay was once a forest." The subtraction of the sand corroborated Leland's story, and completely refuted Blewitt. There was brought to light at low tide acres of black mould and blue clay, thickly studded with the lower parts of the boles of fir and other trees, which in some cases were four and five feet in height, and in diameter varying from six inches to two feet, the stools spreading out on all sides until the roots interlaced. Bones of various animals have also been dug up, and as late as the spring of 1877 antlers of the red deer have been exhumed, and are now in the Museum of the Torquay Natural History Society. There is now no question that a forest did exist, extending from Torre to a considerable distance into Torbay. Trenches and cuttings in different parts of the valley establish this beyond a doubt. There are many indications that this part of the Bay is undergoing a gradual subsidence. Within the recollection of persons living, there were cottages and gardens outside the sea wall which bounds the road at Livermead House; and less than fifty years ago there was a grand sandstone arch at Corbon Head, which vied in



TORQUAY, 1832.

picturesque beauty with the more durable limestone arch on the other side of the bight, locally known as "London Bridge."

The state of the leat or stream was always a cause for much apprehension, and when the Lord of the Manor of Torre Abbey was called upon to fence it so as to prevent people from falling in, a serious contention arose. The Commissioners felt themselves placed in a difficulty; they were unwilling to adopt extreme measures, by availing themselves of the provisions of the Improvement Act, yet the work must be done, and they did it. In endeavouring to recover costs, they very courteously resolved, "That, instead of being summoned, Mr. Cary be invited to attend before the magistrates at their next meeting, to have their decision as to his liability to pay the expenses of making the fences below the turnpike gate in front of Messrs. Luscombe, Wakeham, and Tamlin's houses" (now covered by Fleet Street). Less fortunate recalcitrants were summoned before the Bench without scruple. The leat was closed in by the parish, and the narrow strip of ground which it occupied was for more than thirty years after a cause of dispute between the two Manor Lords, who each set up a claim to it. Indeed, to this contention may be attributed the difficulty of completing the improvement of Fleet Street.

In 1836 a very disastrous wreck occurred at the natural arch known as London Bridge, beyond the Imperial Hotel. During the night of October the 11th, the brig *Duke of Marlborough*, belonging to Messrs. Newton and Co., laden with merchandise, suitable for trafficking on the West Coast of Africa, to which she was bound, ran against the rocks and was completely wrecked. Not a soul escaped. Seven bodies were recovered from the sea and were buried in Torre Churchyard.*

* See Appendix.

CHAPTER THE FIFTEENTH.

The Accession of Her Majesty.—A Public Dinner on the Strand.—The Band Prohibited from Playing after Eight in the Evening.—A Disputed Right of Way to Daddy Hole.—Mr. March Phillipps building Wellswood a Mile from Torquay.—The Toll Gates.—Public Conveyances.—The Irish Famine.—Torquay's Contribution to the Relief Fund.—The Bread Riots of 1847.—Attacking the Shops.—Reading the Riot Act.—The Military called out.—Arrest and Punishment of the Rioters.

THE accession of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to the throne in 1837 was an important event in Torquay. There were great rejoicings, and the children and the poor were feasted by general subscription. The public dinner took place on the Strand. Several hundred persons of Tor and Torquay sat down to the repast, and were waited upon by a number of gentlemen and tradesmen. A procession and band perambulated the town; there were illuminations, fireworks, and bonfires at night, a ball at the Royal Hotel winding up the festivities.

After the band had discoursed so eloquently on the occasion of Her Majesty's accession, it was somewhat ungracious for the Commissioners to adopt the following resolution on the 1st of December, 1837: "If the Torquay Band persist in playing out after eight o'clock at night, the Surveyor be instructed to summon the parties before the magistrates, in order to the playing being discontinued, as complaints have been made to the Commissioners about it."

Up to this period the roads and houses were not definitely named, and as some localities were known by two, three, and even four different appellations, the whole were renamed by the Commissioners.

On the formation of the Newton Abbot Union in 1836–7, under the provisions of the new Poor Law, the parish of Tormoham (Torquay) was included in it; and as a common Union House was provided for the whole of the thirty-nine parishes, the Poor-house at Tor was no longer required; but when it was proposed to sell the property, a question arose as to the title, the Lord of the Manor claiming a portion of the ground at the back. It was not the first time that the validity of the title had been disputed. Many years previously a proposal was made to erect a Workhouse in another part of the parish, but failed owing to this circumstance. This is shewn by an entry on the fly-leaf of the minute book of the Select Vestry, which purports to be "a copy from the original," or former, "rate book," as follows: "Tormoham, April 8th, 1815.—At a public meeting this day, holden pursuant to notice given for the purpose, resolved and agreed that the removal of the Poor-house and everything relative to the title to the same shall be settled and determined by such person or referee as shall be chosen for the purpose by George Cary, Esq., and the Rev. W. Kitson, and that such referee shall have full power to call in any person to his assistance, and to obtain all the information he shall require, and in such way as he shall think proper." It is signed by the Churchwardens, Overseers, and seventeen other persons. On the next page, and referring to the same document, occurs another entry: "We, the under-named, George Cary and William Kitson, do, in pursuance of the power within delegated to us, nominate and appoint the Rev. Samuel Lane as a referee for the purpose within-named.—April 8th, 1815.—George Cary, William Kitson."

There are no entries to show what was the final issue,

but from the tenour of subsequent proceedings, it is probable that no definite conclusion was arrived at, for the old Work-house continued to be used as such.

There was, then, not only this question of title to be settled, but the parish had to consider an imperative order from the Newton Board of Guardians to sell the Poor-house. The parishioners were evidently unwilling to part with it, for, at a meeting on the 10th of November, 1836, the Vestry resolved "That the parish Work-house be not disposed of by the Commissioners of the Poor Law Union if it can be prevented." This determination was reiterated in something like a spirit of defiance at a meeting on the 1st of the following month, when it was emphatically declared "That the Work-house shall not be sold, and that it be reported to the Guardians accordingly." This appears to have been a complete answer to the Guardians, from whom nothing more was heard. The premises were then let as a dwelling house, and the dispute concerning the title slumbered until 1839. In that year the parish agreed "to abandon their claim to a sufficient portion of the ground behind the Work-house adjoining the churchyard to enable a school-house to be built thereon, provided Sir L. V. Palk grants a lease of the remainder of the premises belonging to him in the possession of the parish for 15*s*. a-year." As nothing came of this, it was at length determined to sell the property, and on the 3rd of September, 1839, it was agreed "that, in consequence of a book belonging to the parish, containing certain entries relative to the title, being missed, the parishioners do hold possession of the said house and premises until the said book in question be found and examined." In the meantime, however, the tenant, a person named Tarring, was ejected by the owner of the land; but he was reinstated by the parish, who undertook to pay all the expenses he might incur by retaining possession. The Committee who had been charged with the duty of examining the deeds in the parish chest reported on the 18th of November, 1839, as follows: "That,

in pursuance of the resolution of the last meeting then appointed for that and other purposes, they attended on Wednesday last at Tor Church to ascertain whether any and what books or documents relating to the parish Poor-house were deposited in the chest, or chests, in the Vestry room. That they found in the Vestry room an iron chest, containing only register books belonging to the parish: that they also found a wooden box, ineffectually secured, and to which other persons, as well as the parish officers, could at any time get easy access. That on opening the box they discovered no books or documents whatever, except a lease dated about the year 1744, by which the Church-house, now the Poor-house, was granted by the parish to one Edward Abbot, for a term of eleven years, and a few old apprenticeship indentures, and papers of little or no importance. That, from the information which has been obtained, the Committee have every reason to believe there are other books, deeds, and other documents belonging to the parish, besides those books produced at the last meeting, which ought to be discovered and placed in some secure place, for the benefit and use of the parishioners. That they have enquired into the right of the parish of Tormoham to the Poor-house, and that they are satisfied that the new part as well as the old is the property of the parish." This is signed by Arthur Field, Jos. Turner, Thos. Atkins, William Wish, and John Samuel Abbot. The meeting to whom this report was presented ordered that for the safe keeping of the parish documents there should be procured "an iron chest, with three locks, to be kept in future in the Town Hall." A further search for the lost books was equally fruitless, and the premises have hitherto been retained in possession of the parish, by whom they are let out.

A dispute between the Commissioners and one of the Lords of the Manor has already been mentioned; a collision between them and the other Manor Lord occurred in 1839. The circumstances seemed to be these: From time imme-

morial it was deemed by the inhabitants that they possessed a prescriptive right of way to Daddy Hole Plain and the sea shore beneath; a person named Earle caused such an obstruction as threatened to close the path altogether. The Commissioners held that it was illegal, and on the 3rd of May they resolved that a request be made to Sir L. V. Palk that he would cause it to be removed. At the next meeting it was recorded "That Mr. Kitson be requested to write to Sir L. V. Palk, stating the wishes of the Commissioners, and the inhabitants generally, respecting the path leading to Daddy Hole Plain, he having declined to forward the requisition of the last meeting." Two months later, Mr. Atkins was employed to take counsel's opinion "relative to the obstruction of the footway leading to Daddy Hole Plain." At the next meeting it was stated that Mr. G. M. Butt had considered the case submitted to him, and his opinion was that "a jury would presume a dedication of the said path to the public." Following up this opinion of counsel, Mr. Mare, at a subsequent meeting, brought forward a motion for indicting Earle at the Quarter Sessions at Exeter for non-compliance with the orders of the Commissioners to remove the obstruction, but the motion was lost by six votes to five. No further proceedings appear to have been taken.

In these days the authorities acted decisively if there was any unpleasant odour from the harbour. In October, 1840, the surveyor was requested to "summon the harbour master before the magistrates whenever the weed in the basin became offensive."

On July the 11th, 1840, a melancholy accident occurred to three visitors. Miss Barrett, the accomplished poetess, now Mrs. Barrett Browning, was lodging with her brother, Mr. Edward Moulton Barrett, at the Baths, now known as Sealawn. Mr. Barrett, accompanied by Captain Clarke, Mr. Vanneck, and a boatman, took a boat for the purpose of cruising out to sea. When three or four miles off Teignmouth the boat was caught in a squall and capsized, and

her four occupants were drowned. The bodies of Mr. Barrett, Captain Clarke, and White, the boatman, were recovered and interred in Tor churchyard.

As an illustration of the rapid growth of Torquay, it may be mentioned that Mr. March Phillipps, in 1840, caused Wellswood to be built as his residence, and selected that situation because it was a mile distant from the town, and here he believed he should be able to enjoy the seclusion and quiet of the country, far removed from the town. Wellswood is now the centre of a cluster of villas; terraces are built close up to the boundary wall, and there is a cab-stand near the eastern entrance gate!

For the maintenance of public order, the governing body in 1841 appointed no less than five constables, and fully appreciated the extraordinary effort by nominating Mr. Kilby "Captain of the Force!" There is a somewhat equivocal entry on the minute book about the police in the year following, "That the police force shall for the ensuing year consist of Mr. Kilby and two other good men, and two other men as at present."

It will scarcely be credited that a toll-gate stood for many years at the junction of Fleet Street with Union Street, or rather a little above the cart entrance to Prowse's brewery, and the road being very narrow in one part, barely twenty-five feet wide, many accidents happened. The inhabitants, the Commissioners, and the juries of both manors, repeatedly petitioned for its removal, but without effect. In 1842 a very strong remonstrance was made to the Turnpike Trustees, but it was not till 1850 that the obnoxious gate was taken down, and then, to compensate for the loss, the Turnpike Trustees put up a gate at every avenue of approach to the town.

With the exception of a few residents, who had their own carriages, the public conveyances in the early part of the century were sedan chairs, and but very few of these; Bath chairs were afterwards introduced as an improvement;

but a still greater improvement were the chairs drawn by donkeys, which came into general use about the year 1843. The number of men plying for hire was not sufficient to require regulations on the part of the authorities, and there was no recognized stand until 1845, when the Commissioners directed their Surveyor "to appoint a convenient place between the hotels for the chairmen to stand with their chairs." Two years later the Commissioners permitted "the chairmen to stand in any open space, but not more than six at a time."

Her Majesty and Prince Albert during a yachting cruise in August, 1846, paid a passing visit to Babbacombe and Torbay; Her Majesty notices in her *Journal* that she "saw Torquay very plain."

The year 1846 was memorable for a deficient harvest, the failure of the potato crop, and the wide-spread distress resulting therefrom during the winter of that year and the greater part of the year following. It was the year of the famine in Ireland. Notwithstanding the distress of the poor in Torquay (for whose assistance relief committees were formed and labour provided, the parish being divided into districts for the purpose), the inhabitants did their best to contribute to the funds for the starving Irish. Over £600 was subscribed from private sources and church and chapel offertories; and bales of clothing were despatched fortnightly. The Queen's letter on "behalf of the suffering Irish" was read in all the churches on Sunday, the 21st of February, 1847, and on Wednesday, the 24th of March, there was a general fast. The privations caused much discontent among the working classes, and in May, 1847, there were bread riots in various towns in Devonshire. The first commenced at Exeter on Friday, the 14th of May: bakers' shops and stores were broken open, and much damage was done to private property. Special constables were enrolled, and two companies of the [illegible] Fusiliers, stationed at Plymouth, were despatched to

Exeter. In the course of a few days, bread riots occurred at Exmouth, Dawlish, Okehampton, Cullumpton, Crediton, and Tiverton. On Monday, the 17th, disturbances broke out at Torquay. Rumours were current several days previously that a riot was meditated, but so little was danger apprehended that no preparation was made to guard against it. At half-past seven in the evening a mob collected in Lower Union Street, and at once made an attack on the bakers' shops, the contents of which were carried off by the women in their aprons. The rioters worked under the cover of a dark night: owing to the economy of the Commissioners, no street lamps were permitted to be lit during the summer months, and to make matters worse, not only the lanterns but the burners had been removed, as was customary during the summer. With the view of identifying the ringleaders, it was determined to turn on the gas at the full; when this was done and the gas lit, each street lamp emitted a flame about a foot high, thoroughly illuminating the place. By this time several thousand persons were in the streets, and when the more orderly disposed attempted to seize the rioters, they were rescued by their companions or secreted themselves in the crowd. The mob hurried down Fleet Street, and attacked the shop of Mr. Wills, at the corner of George Street; but one of the defenders, armed with a crowbar, dealt the leader a terrific blow on the head which felled him to the ground, and he was carried off senseless. The next places attacked were Mr. Cove's shop in Swan Street, and Mr. Bowden's, the second shop on the Strand, but as the bread at the latter place was thrown out to them, the mob refrained from inflicting any damage. The rioters then made their way to Torre, and commenced an attack on the premises of Mr. Webber, near the Torbay Inn. Here they were overtaken by a party of tradesmen, who were accompanied by Mr. March Phillipps and Mr. E. Vivian, two of the magistrates; a collision took place, and fighting followed. The Riot Act was read, and the men who had been captured were taken to the lock-up.

Mr. March Phillipps and Mr. Vivian returned to the Town Hall at midnight, and commenced an examination of the prisoners, which lasted till three in the morning. Three men were committed for trial and despatched to Exeter, the others being remanded. At noon on Tuesday, while the magistrates were disposing of the men in custody, a body of navvies, sixty in number, employed on the railway works above Torre, having been incited, as the evidence afterwards showed, by persons belonging to the town, marched into Torquay equipped with pick-axes, crowbars, and shovels, with the avowed purpose of pulling down the Town Hall unless their fellow-workmen were liberated. They marched down Union Street to the Town Hall, and turned up the Abbey Road, when they were confronted by Mr. March Phillipps. A stalwart fellow named Hart, who appeared to be the leader, stepped forward and demanded the prisoners; he was told that the party he was in search of were probably at that moment in Exeter. The men ominously advanced towards the door, evidently bent on mischief. The position grew critical. Suddenly they made a rush, when Mr. March Phillipps seized the ring-leader and held him fast. The constables and coastguard coming up at the moment, Hart, with several of his companions, was secured. The remainder of the gang, seeing how matters stood, quickly dispersed. Seventeen prisoners were lodged in the Watch House at one time. As, from the boldness of the attack, further violence was apprehended, a special messenger was despatched to Exeter for troops, and by evening a detachment of forty men of the Fifth Fusiliers, under Captain Millman, accompanied by Dr. Pennell, a county magistrate, arrived, and was quartered in the Union Hall. In addition, the *Adelaide*, revenue cutter, and Government steamer *Vulcan*, brought detachments of the coastguard, which, combined with those of the district, made forty in all. Three hundred special constables were also sworn in. Seeing these preparations the rioters made no further attempt to disturb the peace

the town. The prisoners were sent by the steamer *Zephyr* to Topsham, and thence to Exeter, instead of by road, a plot having been discovered to stop the coach and rescue the men as they passed along the Newton road.

The total number of prisoners committed was twenty-eight. At the June Quarter Sessions, Hart and Dunn, the ringleaders, were sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment, Spiller and Bates, for inciting the men to riot, six weeks', six of the men were sentenced to a month's imprisonment, one to six weeks', one was acquitted, and the remainder were discharged.

CHAPTER THE SIXTEENTH.

The first Contention about Cary Green.—Abolishing the Regatta Fair in 1847.—Disputed Right of Way to the Sands.—An Appeal to the Quarter Sessions.—An Old Roman Causeway.—Human Remains.—The Cemetery at Goodrington.—Inadequate Governing Powers.—Visitation of Cholera.—Temporary Refuges at Boston Fields.—The Old Town Hall or Watch-House.—The Last Days of the Old Commissioners.—Objection to Newspaper Reporting.—Adoption of the Public Health Act.—The Russian Princes.—A French Squadron in Torbay.—The New Town Hall.—Ordnance Survey.—Her Majesty and the Prince Consort in Torbay.—The Prince at St. Mary-Church.—Address of the Local Board to Her Majesty.—The Reply.

OPENING up new roads was one of the principal aims of the Town Commissioners; they desired to make a new approach to the coal cellars on the North Quay, but were opposed by the Trustees of Torre Abbey. The road, however, was partly made when legal proceedings were taken. The Commissioners endeavoured to disarm this opposition by resolving, on the 8th of July, 1847, "That an answer be sent to Mr. Cary's notice, to the following effect:—'That the Commissioners felt they were acting within the powers vested in them in making a considerable public improvement; but in doing so regret that they have taken any steps offensive or disagreeable to Mr. Cary, and accordingly hope that he will take a different view of the matter, lending his aid to the Commissioners in this and all other matters for the advantage of the public interest.'" This reply had not the desired effect, for the

road was not made, and the Green was permitted to be used as a resting place for caravans, shows, and wild beast exhibitions; as a timber yard, saw-pit, and a general receptacle for all kinds of rubbish.

The first time the authorities attempted to abolish the fair held on the quay during the regatta (about which there has been much contention of late years) was in 1847, when it was determined "That the surveyor be instructed to keep the streets adjoining the harbour clear of obstructions on the regatta day, and not to allow caravans to stand in any other place but Daddy Hole Plain, and prevent any noise or disturbance in the town after half-past eight in the evening." Subsequent Boards have endeavoured, but not always successfully, to enforce this rule, with the exception of limiting the "fun of the fair" to half-past eight.

During this year a serious rupture occurred between the trustees of Torre Abbey and the Commissioners. It appears that from the time the monastery was founded, if not before, there was a thoroughfare (now Belgrave Road), from the village of Tor to the sands, which was known as Sand Lane. It was used by the farmers for bringing up sand and sea-weed in their crooks, and on their pack horses. In 1825, for the convenience of the owner of the Abbey, the lane was closed, Mr. Cary, by way of equivalent, conceding to his tenants and those of the Torwood Manor who lived at Torre, the right of using the Long Avenue Road. When the turnpike road was made from Torre to Livermead, Mr. Cary considered that it was sufficient for all the purposes of the tenants, and accordingly sought to close the Long Avenue Road against the public, one of the grounds of his objection being that it passed through his farmyard. The subject was discussed at a public meeting, when a resolution was passed in favour of closing it against carts, but sanctioning its use as a bridle path. It was averred that the meeting was packed

with Mr. Cary's tenants, hence the adoption of the resolution. A poll was demanded, and refused on technical grounds. This was followed by an order from the local magistrates to close the road, but on an appeal to the Quarter Sessions at Exeter, the order was quashed, and the road has remained open to the public ever since.

It may here be added that although Sand Lane was closed against vehicles and horses, it was ever afterwards used as a path-field until the meadows were taken up for building purposes, when it was re-opened as the present Belgrave Road. Old Sand Lane commenced in the Tor Church Road, passed at the back of the lodge (now the site of No. 1 Sandridge Terrace), and thence between high hedges, with orchards on each side, on to the sands at a point near the steps which now lead to the beach, in front of Atkinson's Hotel, where was discovered a Roman causeway, evidently that referred to in the original grant of William Brewer conveying the lands to the Abbey, and described as the causeway which goeth down to the sea.* It was accidentally brought to light when the Torbay Road was constructed. The workmen, throwing up a trench for the wall, came upon a substantial and compact piece of masonry, from fifteen to twenty feet wide, formed of pitched stone, that is, large stones set together on their edges, and so securely fastened that gunpowder had to be used in order to dislodge them. The stone was a hard brown kind, brought apparently from Cockington, that being the nearest locality whence that particular kind of stone can be procured. Not far from this causeway the workmen brought to light an elm coffin, substantially made, and in a perfect state of preservation. The shields and handles were almost as sound as when they were first deposited in the sands. On opening the coffin, it was found to contain nothing more than a mass of crumbling dust. The coffin is supposed to have contained the remains of one of the

* In the grant it is termed the *calcetum* causeway; *calcetum* is an old Latin word for a causeway made with stones.

officers of the fleet. In excavating sites for the houses along the shores of the Bay, numerous human remains, presumedly of men belonging to the Royal Navy, have frequently been dug up. Several bodies are known to have been buried in Torre Abbey Park, and in the Ilsam valley some scores have been interred. This seems to have been a common practice before the Government acquired a burying ground at Goodrington, adjoining the hospital. During the last century the Government purchased about three acres of land at Goodrington, on which was erected a hospital, the remainder being appropriated to burial purposes. Independently of the hospital, there was sufficient accommodation for a guard of soldiers. In this burying ground a considerable number of officers and men have been interred, as may be seen by the memorial stones which still remain. One of these stones bears date the same year in which Napoleon was brought into Torbay. After the conclusion of peace, the hospital was purchased by Colonel Drake, of Ipplepen, who converted it into a pleasant marine residence, but the burying ground was sadly neglected. As years rolled on, the existence of the property appears to have been overlooked by the Government. It became a sort of No-Man's-Land; the silent memorials of the dead alone seemed to keep watch and ward over it The sea, however, is no respecter of persons or lands; here, in South Devon, in its constant battling with the shore, it always comes off the victor; and so, in course of years, the steadily-advancing surges crept up, undermined the boundary walls of the sailors' cemetery, and at times flooded the adjacent lands. Seeing that the destruction of the property was imminent, Mr. James Mountstephen wrote to the Admiralty, and was authorised to restore the sea fences.

The Torquay Commissioners, finding that their powers under the Act adopted in 1835 were still inadequate for the proper governance of the town, took into their considera-

tion, on the 20th Sept., 1849, the question of adopting the Public Health Act, which had been passed the previous year. Accordingly, after much deliberation, it was resolved, "That the Commissioners, finding it impossible, with their limited powers, to carry out the sanitary regulations and other improvements which the interests of the town imperatively require, a vestry meeting of the ratepayers be immediately called to consider the expediency or otherwise of applying to Parliament during the coming session for an extension of the powers of the Tormoham Act, or of petitioning for the application of the Public Health Act to this parish." The meeting was held, and the parish determined in favour of the Health Act of 1848, as preferable to patching up the local one. The General Board of Health sent down their Inspector, Mr. Rammell, who held an inquiry, and made his report in 1850. That report strongly recommended the inhabitants to adhere to their resolve of adopting the Act of 1848.

On Thursday, the 21st of June, 1849, and following days, there were great festivities at Torre Abbey, on the occasion of Mr. Cary attaining his majority. Sports and amusements of various kinds were provided on the meadows, and at the house all who came were made welcome. In a large tent, erected on the lawn, two hundred of the tenantry and friends dined together, on which occasion a baron of beef was provided. Dancing was led off by two of the oldest tenants, Mr. W. Tapley and Mr. W. Gasking, between eighty and ninety years of age. A ship on wheels, accompanied by a motley group of fishermen, paraded through the town.

In common with other towns, Torquay suffered from the visitation of cholera in 1849. The number of deaths from cholera and dysentery combined, in six weeks, was 66. The cases occurred chiefly in the oldest and worst parts of the town—the homes of the poor—in Swan Street, George Street, and Pimlico. Many of the inhabitants of

these localities were removed to wooden houses, temporarily erected in a field at Plainmoor.* The expenses incurred amounted to £1,176 11*s.* 6*d.*, for relief given to 882 poor persons, for sanitary precautions, medical officers, house visitors, and nurses. The Guardians of the Union declined to charge this to the Common Fund, insisting that each parish should bear its own expenses. Counsel's opinion was against the Guardians, and after a protracted contention the major portion of the amount was charged to the Common Fund.

One of the last acts of the Town Commissioners was to place on record "that some better arrangement be made in the Hall for the reporters, under the direction of the Surveyor." The Hall was a dismal little hole, used alike for the meetings of the Town Commissioners, the Public Vaccinator, and the Magistrates in Petty Sessions. A low double rail divided the room into two parts; in the upper was a large deal table, around which was placed a dozen wooden chairs; this was alternately the council chamber of the Commissioners and the Bench of the Magistrates. By special permission, reporters were occasionally allowed to take a seat at it. Below the bar or rail just described the remainder of the room was given up to the public. To Mr. Thomas Latimer, proprietor of the *Western Times*, must be conceded the honour of having not only introduced shorthand reporting into Devonshire, but of claiming the right of the public to be represented by reporters at police enquiries. The magistrates often sat to do public business in private rooms, either at their own houses or in solicitors' offices. They claimed a right to exclude the public, and enforced it for a considerable time with more or less of legality. On several occasions, when requested to retire, Mr. Latimer told the magistrates that

* This may be said to have been the origin of Boston Fields, or as it is now known, Victoria Park. Before the erection of these refuges, there was only one house, surrounded by allotment gardens and fields. This house is now at the corner of one of the streets.

he preferred the staircase to the window as an exit. In 1832, Joseph Marchetti applied for an ale-house license for the Family Hotel, now The Queen's, and Mr. Latimer made his appearance when the case came on. An objection was made to his taking notes; but with that indomitable courage which has been the leading feature in his career as a journalist, he claimed his right to do so.*

The Surveyor very soon acted upon the instructions of the governing body, and provided a kind of three-corner cupboard, capable of holding two persons, or, perhaps, three, by leaving open the door. The rail and the wall of the building formed two sides of the box, and the hypothenuse of the triangle faced towards the bench or table.

The Commissioners sat for the last time on the 20th of September, 1850, and the election of twelve persons to constitute the Torquay Local Board of Health having taken place, the first meeting of the new governing body was held on the 28th of the same month.

One of the earliest acts of the Board was to bring the hackney carriages under their control by the issuing of licenses, the framing of bye-laws for their regulation, and the setting apart of certain places as stands where the cabmen might ply for hire.

Under the Commissioners the improvement rate was 2¼*d.* in the pound each quarter of the year; occasionally it rose to 3*d.*, and in a few instances was supplemented by an extra rate. The Local Board in January, 1851, made a rate of 6*d.* in the pound for the half-year, amounting to £764 16*s.* 3*d.*; and in June the rate was increased to 9*d.*

* When Mr. Marchetti applied to the magistrates at the Petty Sessions, which were then held at Newton, the application was refused; opposition was raised by the occupier of the Royal Hotel, and the ground landlord. One of the arguments advanced was that if the license were granted, the value of the Royal Hotel would be reduced by £100 a-year. Marchetti, however, appealed to the Quarter Sessions, and the decision of the magistrates was reversed. Objection was then made by the Manor lord that Marchetti, by erecting a portico, had encroached on the Manor right. A party of workmen was sent to take it down; but they did not care to commence operations, for Marchetti, with a drawn sword in his hand, stood at the entrance and threatened to cut down the first man who made the attempt. Legal proceedings followed, and Marchetti gained his case, for according to his lease, his right extended to the quay.

in the pound, amounting to £1,178. The half-yearly rates have since reached 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound.

Among the distinguished visitors of the year were their Imperial Highnesses the Prince and Princess Oldenburg, with their family, Prince Nicholas, Prince Alexander, Prince George, Prince Constantine, Princess Alexandra, and Princess Catherine and suite. They remained a considerable time, and Prince Oldenburg laid the foundation stone of the Torbay Infirmary and Dispensary. At a later date, the Duchess of Orleans, with the Duc de Paris and Duc de Chartres, visited Torquay, and took up their residence at Mount Lebanon.

At the close of October, a French squadron, consisting of two first-rates and four second-rates, the *Valmy*, *Inflexible*, *Jena*, *Henri IV.*, *Jemmappes*, and a steamer, anchored off Daddy Hole. They left the following day, but were driven back by a heavy gale, and remained at anchor for a week. The thousands of visitors who went on board were courteously received. After leaving Torbay, while proceeding west, an explosion occurred on board the *Valmy*, by which twenty men were killed.

A new Town Hall was one of the Board's first requirements, and accordingly Mr. Dixon, the surveyor, designed the present building, with its campanile tower, which was commenced in 1851 and finished in 1852. The site was granted by Mr. Cary, on a lease for ninety-nine years, at a nominal rent. During the progress of the work, the Board and the magistrates transacted their business in the auction room of the Union Hotel.

The parishioners of Torquay made a very outspoken protest against the revival of synodal action by the late Bishop of Exeter, at a united meeting of the parishioners of Tormohun and Upton, held at the Town Hall on the 29th April, 1851, from whence, in consequence of the numbers desirous of attending, it was adjourned to the Union Hall. The following resolutions were agreed to:—

"'First—That the parishioners of Tormoham and Upton

have learnt with surprise and regret from a visitation charge published by the Bishop of Exeter, that he proposes to convoke a diocesan synod of the clergy for the purpose of agreeing with him to some general declaration upon a point of doctrine, impugning a decision given by a Higher Court of Ecclesiastical Appeal; and further, for considering 'such other matters' as with the bishop's sanction shall be submitted for deliberation, whether affecting the church at large, or the diocese in particular. It appears to have been admitted by the bishop himself that a diocesan synod assembled for such objects is wholly unprecedented in the Church of England; and it appears to us, moreover, that synodal meetings of clergy elected without any lawful authority, and aiming to represent the opinion of the entire diocese upon an important dogma of our faith, must contravene an acknowledged principle of the constitution, which recognizes no such assembly of the Church excepting by authority from the Crown; nor admits as valid any 'settlement' of doctrine without the consent of Parliament. Besides that the so-called synod, pretending to exercise deliberative powers, withheld even from the convocation of clergy duly summoned by the sovereign, will transgress in spirit at least, if not in letter, the provision of an existing statute (25th Henry VIII. cap. 19, s. 1) which declares in substance 'that *any clergyman* who shall presume to attempt, allege, or put in use any constitution or ordinance, provincial or synodal, or who shall enact, promulge, or execute any such ordinances, by whatsover name they shall be called, in their convocation (which always shall be assembled by the authority of the King's will) unless the same clergy may have the King's most royal assent and licence, shall be liable to suffer the penalty of fine and imprisonment.' Notwithstanding, however, that almost all the commentators have also distinctly affirmed diocesan synods to be therefore unlawful, it has been asserted on the authority of high legal opinion that this novel 'experiment on the part of the Bishop'—so far as his intentions can be

ascertained—is not absolutely illegal. Lest, then, some of our clergy, influenced by such advances, may be induced to attend either the decanal or diocesan meetings, we consider it to be the duty of the laity, an essential constituent portion of the Church, to protest at once against so unwarrantable an attempt to extend episcopal power, and which, seeming to reject the authority of the State, as well as that of the Primate, our Metropolitan, might, if successful, ultimately result in constituting this diocese a schismatical church of Exeter, no longer forming an integral portion of the Church of England. Neither can it be denied that this mischievous example of insubordination, if followed in other dioceses, might lead to adverse declarations upon religious tenets, and to conflicting rules respecting discipline or ritual observances, destructive to that power and unity of our Church so much to be desired of all good men. For we feel convinced that the project, as announced by the Bishop, of holding repeated synods and of inviting discussions upon subjects of great public interest in the ruri-decanal chapters several weeks before the diocesan meetings at Exeter (the absolute control over whose deliberations he reserves in his own hand) must, in the present unsettled condition of our times, lead to deplorable and continued agitation. We will endeavour, therefore, to oppose, by all lawful means, this ill-timed innovation upon long-established usage; and we earnestly call upon the reverend incumbents of Tormohun and Upton not to compromise the respect and regard in which they are deservedly held, by countenancing the design of one who is avowedly committed to a struggle with the State, towards which he should be the first to show an example of obedience, and which he does not hesitate to characterize in terms adapted from the address of some foreign ecclesiastics as being under the influence of 'anti-Christian and anti-ecclesiastical' principles. Secondly—That a committee, consisting of the existing churchwardens, Col. J. Douglas and Mr. E. Vivian, be appointed for the purpose of drawing up addresses

to the Queen and to the Primate of all England, in accordance with the foregoing resolution, and praying for the intervention of their authority to stay this dangerous movement of our diocesan; and that such addresses be laid before an adjourned meeting of this vestry." This is signed by Mr. W. Kitson, as chairman of the meeting. At the adjourned meeting on the 15th of May, the addresses were read and adopted, and it was also resolved, "That the thanks of this united vestry be given to the Rev. R. R. Wolfe, incumbent of Upton parish, for his reasonable and independent conduct in opposing at the ruri-decanal meeting held here on Tuesday last the sending up of any subject for deliberation at the pretended diocesan synod in Exeter, abstaining thereby from sanctioning with his concurrence the mischievous and unprecedented proceedings of our diocesan, and affording thus to the parishioners additional reason for congratulating themselves on their having a minister whose views so well accord with their own."

In 1852 the inhabitants petitioned the Lord Chancellor for a County Court to be held in Torquay, on the ground that it was a great hardship for suitors to be required to attend the district court at Newton, six miles away. The application was rejected. A previous effort to obtain this privilege was made in December, 1846.

At the request of the authorities, the Ordnance Department undertook the survey of the town. This work occupied nearly two years, but it was thoroughly well done, as a glance at the map, carefully preserved in the Surveyor's office, will show. The cost was £400. Duplicates were taken of it, and on these the progressive growth of the town, the new roads, sewers, water mains, and gas pipes, are laid down.

An endeavour was repeatedly made by Mr. Edward Vivian to get public baths and wash-houses established in the town, under the powers of the Public Health Act, but although official reports were in favour of it, and frequent discussions took place, "the poor ratepayer's pocket" plea was always victorious.

The Torquay Extra-Mural Cemetery Company was incorporated by Act of Parliament in 1852, with a capital of £8,000 in £10 shares. Sixteen and a quarter acres of land were purchased on the Barton Road, in the parish of St. Mary-Church, adjoining the parish of Tormoham. Part only of the ground was enclosed at the commencement, but the whole has since been taken in for use. The cemetery is divided into two portions, one of which is consecrated. Each part has its own chapel. The ground is well planted with trees and shrubs, and every part is kept in scrupulous order. The establishment of this cemetery was a necessity forced upon the parish in consequence of the overcrowded state of Tor churchyard, and the unsuitability of the few yards of land belonging to Upton Church for the purposes of interment. In 1836, 1842, and at various other times, additions of a few perches of land were made to the churchyard of Tor, but these were totally inadequate for the purpose. The circumstance which finally roused the inhabitants to a sense of taking proper remedies against intra-mural interment was the first burial in the Upton churchyard, which took place on the 11th of February, 1850. That same evening a public meeting was held, and a petition to the Board of Health agreed to, condemning all burials in ground so close to the public thoroughfare. In 1851, when the Cemetery Company had issued their prospectus, the parishioners in vestry appointed a committee to report on the question of either providing a public cemetery, or making some extensive enlargement of Tor churchyard, by purchasing the adjoining fields, on which now stand the Belgrave Mews and houses adjacent. The report was in favour of a cemetery, which, it was urged, ought to be in the hands of the parochial authorities. In November, 1851, the vestry petitioned the Local Board of Health to take measures for providing a public burying ground, and to petition Parliament against the proposed Extra-Mural Cemetery Company. On the 17th of January, 1852, the Cemetery

Company's Bill was condemned in Vestry, and in July the same year a meeting was held to petition Parliament against the Bill. This led to a poll, when there were for petitioning Parliament 357 votes, and against 299. The Company, however, persevered, and the Bill became law. At the vestry meeting of October 22nd, 1853, a resolution was passed that, "there being a cemetery already established by Act of Parliament, it is advisable to request the Bishop of the Diocese to consecrate the same." This put an end to any further efforts on the part of the parish to provide a burying ground of its own. On the 28th of December, 1860, notice was issued by order of the Secretary of State, that "No new burial ground be opened in the parish of Tormoham, without the approval of the Secretary of State, and that interments in the existing burying grounds be discontinued, with the following modifications: From and after January, 1861, no new burials are to take place in the churchyards, except the piece of ground reserved for the vault of the incumbent, and of family vaults or brick graves which were in existence on the 9th of October, 1860, and which shall be used on the following conditions; that they can be opened without disturbing human remains; that they are free from water; that each coffin be separately entombed in brick or stone work, properly cemented; and that the only bodies interred be those of the husbands, wives, unmarried children, and brothers and sisters of parishioners already interred there." The first interment in unconsecrated ground took place on 2nd November, 1852; the first in the consecrated ground, 29th June, 1854. At the present time it is computed that the cemetery contains space enough for all the interments required in the next 50 years, making allowance for increase in population. The present number of interments in the consecrated portion is about 3,300, and that in the uncon ecrated 2,800. Capt. J. H. Lee was Chairman of the Company from its incorporation to the time of his death, in February, 1873, and a handsome memorial brass

has been erected by the Company in the Episcopal Chapel. The present Chairman is Mr. Arthur Hyde Dendy; the Secretary, Mr. John Lane; Chaplain for consecrated portion, Rev. T. Clarke; unconsecrated portion, Rev. C. Knibbs.

The great event of 1852 was the visit of Her Most Gracious Majesty to Torbay. On the afternoon of the 19th of July, the coastguard on duty at Babbacombe descried three steamers bearing down at great speed, one of them flying the royal standard. This proved to be the royal squadron, consisting of the *Victoria and Albert* steam yacht, with the *Fairy* tender, and *Black Eagle*, which were standing across from Portland to Torbay. At three o'clock the vessels brought up close under the cliffs of Babbacombe. The coastguard had already spread the news, and the utmost excitement prevailed in the little hamlet, for at that time Babbacombe consisted of but very few cottages. So entirely unexpected was the arrival of the squadron, that its approach was not known in Torquay until after the royal party had been in the Bay a considerable time. Her Majesty, descending into the barge, was rowed close to the beach, and proceeded along the shore, being much gratified with the charming scenery. The Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, landed on the beach, and entered the beautiful grounds of Mrs. Whitehead. Leaving the young Princes with that lady, Prince Albert ascended through the shrubbery on to the Downs. Having enquired the way to St. Mary-Church, whither he was desirous of going to inspect the marble works of Mr. Woodley, whose collection in the 1851 Exhibition had obtained a gold medal and had been much admired by the Prince, he was overtaken by a cab, which he hailed. The driver informed him that he was engaged, adding that he was going to fetch Mr. Woodley to see the Queen, but if the gentleman liked he could ride on till they met him. The Prince accepted the offer, and presently the hirer of the fly came along the road. The driver pulled up, and the Prince having explained that his object was to

see the marble works, Mr. Woodley turned back and had the honour of conducting his august but unknown visitor over his own establishment, as well as the village. He then courteously offered the carriage to the stranger, stating that he was going to try to get a glimpse of Prince Albert, who had taken considerable interest in his exhibition at the "World's Fair." After parting from Mr. Woodley, his Royal Highness drove through Torquay and thence round the Lincombe Drive above Meadfoot, returning to the yacht shortly after six o'clock. Immediately the Prince was on board, the squadron got under weigh, and proceeded close under the land around the coast to Torbay. Nothing could exceed the beauty of the scene as the yachts steamed by Anstis Cove, passing so immediately beneath the precipitous cliffs that those upon the summits could look directly down upon their decks. The vessels very soon after entered Torbay, and cast anchor off the town. By this time the Bay presented an animated sight, for yachts, sailing vessels, and row boats, were coming in from all directions, whilst every height and vantage ground which could command the Bay was occupied by crowds of spectators. The royal yachts were now reinforced by the arrival of the *Odin*, *Samson*, *Barracouta*, *Magicienne*, and *Retribution*, steam frigates, and the *Vivid*, steam tender. It appears that the royal yacht had outstripped its escort by nearly half the run from Portland. As Her Majesty had not contemplated landing at Torquay, and purposed leaving Torbay early the next morning, the Chairman and several members of the Local Board of Health proceeded in the coastguard galley alongside the royal yacht to ascertain whether and at what hour it would be agreeable to Her Majesty to receive an address. The Earl of Hardwick gave them a courteous reception, and explained to them that on private excursions like the present, Her Majesty did not receive deputations in person, but that an address, which might be entrusted to him, should be laid before Her Majesty, and that a reply would be returned through the Secretary of State. At a

later hour in the evening the following address was presented from the Torquay Local Board of Health:—

"We, your Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the Town Commissioners of Torquay, on behalf of ourselves and the other inhabitants of the said town, venture to approach your Majesty on the auspicious occasion of your visiting our shores, to assure your Majesty of our devoted loyalty and attachment to your Majesty's person and government, and to express our high gratification at your Majesty's visit to this part of your dominions, with the earnest hope that your Majesty may by the Divine favour be enabled on some future occasion to land on our shores and afford us an opportunity of personally testifying our loyalty and attachment.—Signed, William Kitson (Chairman), Robert Stark, John T. Harvey, Richard Taylor, Edward Vivian, W. N. Peckins, William Harvey, John Hutchinson Lee."

Some old guns used at the Abbey for saluting purposes were brought up to Waldon Hill, near the steps, and a royal salute was fired, and at night rockets and blue lights were discharged from the grounds at Ettenheim, the residence of the Inspecting Officer of Coastguard, Commander Story; a partial illumination was attempted at a few houses, but had notice for preparation been given, it would doubtless have been general.

By eight o'clock the next morning the royal party were on deck enjoying the cool sea breezes and the beautiful panorama of the Bay. After an early breakfast, at which Her Majesty most graciously accepted a present of Devonshire cream and flowers from Woodfield, the *Fairy* got up steam, and the Prince Consort proceeded on board her for the purpose of going to Plymouth, where it was intended that his Highness should open a dock. The squadron was surrounded by yachts and boats; the Torquay band, on the old pier, played at intervals the National Anthem and other loyal airs. Her Majesty was seated in the round house, sketching Torre Abbey and other picturesque points in

Torbay, while the young Princes were gambolling over the vessel and seeming fully to enjoy the animated scene. At ten o'clock the boats were lowered and manned, and Her Majesty, attended by her suite, entered the barge which had the royal standard at the bow; then, preceded by gigs and escorted by other boats and yachts, the barge was rowed beneath the cliffs from Beacon Hill to Torre Abbey Sands, passing close by the pier. Returning to the royal yacht, steam was got up, and the vessel proceeded in the direction of Berry Head; the frigates had previously got their anchors up and were leaving the Bay.

After leaving Torbay, Her Majesty went on direct to Plymouth, Prince Albert having preceded the squadron to Dartmouth in the *Fairy*, and rode from that town to Totnes in his own travelling carriage, which had been landed on the previous evening from the *Vivid*. At Totnes an address was presented to the Prince by Mr. Stanley Cary.

The following reply to the address to Her Majesty from the Torquay Local Board of Health was received shortly afterwards:—

"Whitehall, 26th July, 1852.

"Sir,—I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the Town Commissioners of Torquay.

"And I have the satisfaction to inform you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the same very graciously.

"I have the honour to be, sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"W. Kitson, Esq." "T. H. WALPOLE.

CHAPTER THE SEVENTEENTH.

The Market Act.—Local and Parliamentary contention.—Obstacles encountered.—The Site in Fleet Street.—Crippled condition of the Company through Law Costs.—Gift of a Site by Sir L. V. Palk.—Opening of the Market.—The Results of the Act.—Preparing for a Riot.—The first Steeple Chases on Plainmoor.—Homes for the Working Classes.—Model Lodging House.—Sir L. Palk's Ellacombe Scheme.—Her Majesty and the Prince Consort at Dartmouth.—Rapid Extension of Buildings.—The Prince of Wales in Torquay.—Adoption of the County Constabulary Act.—New Divisional Arrangements.—The New Petty Sessions Court House.—The Bath Company: its career and winding up.

THE opening of a new market demands a passing notice. In 1820, the late Sir L. V. Palk built the old market, near the Quay, but as he possessed no power for concentrating either buyers or sellers, the attendance was never such as to realise the object of the promoter, and it gradually became deserted. In 1847, Sir L. V. Palk and Mr. Palk caused a bill to be introduced to Parliament to enable them to erect a new market house. The bill was rejected by the House of Commons, who considered that unless all parties were unanimous, it was not desirable to entrust compulsory powers in the hands of individuals, however great might be their obvious interest in promoting the general welfare of the town. In the autumn of 1848, at a meeting of those favourable to the establishment of a well-regulated market, a committee was appointed for the purpose of devising the best means of accomplishing this end. The result was the incorporation

of the Torquay Market Company. The capital was fixed at £7,000, in 1,400 shares at £5 each: this low price of the shares was determined upon in order to secure the co-operation of all classes, so as to enable them to participate in its benefits. A new building was agreed upon, as the old market could neither be improved nor enlarged, being closed on three sides by street property, and on the fourth by the main road. Almost a necessary consequence of the Market Bill was a clause to put down the hawking of marketable commodities. The practice of hawking had been brought about by reason of the insufficiency of the accommodation of the old market, and provisions were taken from house to house, causing, it was averred by the promoters of the bill, much annoyance to householder, by entailing unnecessary labour on their servants. Both manor lords promised to co-operate, and the original petition in favour of the Company contained the signatures of some who soon afterwards became its strenuous opponents. A site was selected in Warren Place (Upper Fleet Street), and the projected new entrance to the town through George Street to which it would most probably have led would have effected a great improvement in that locality, highly advantageous to the Company and the town. Opposition, however, soon rose, and bitter was the contention both in the town and before the Parliamentary Committee. The bill was at length passed, but so crippled were the Company by the expenses of the contest, amounting to £2,000, (the costs of the opponents were the same,) that they were compelled to abandon the Warren Place site, and the Company must have been dissolved, after having with so much public spirit spent their only available funds upon the erection of slaughter houses out of the town, had not Sir L. V. Palk and Mr. Palk very liberally presented them with the present site. In order to avail themselves of this offer an amended Act was applied for; the opposition was renewed, and heavy expenses again entailed; but in the Session of 1852 the Act was passed,

and on the 22nd of October, in that year, the foundation stone was laid by Mr. L. Palk, the contract price being £3,600. The entire length of the building is 270 feet, with an area at the end for hay and straw stores (since converted into shops). The lower end of the building was designed for a fish market 60 feet deep. It is now used as a forage store. That portion of the building which is now used as a market is 240 feet long and 60 feet wide. The style of the architecture is Roman-Doric, wrought limestone being used, with cement pilasters, cornices, and dressings. The opening on September 29th, 1853, was celebrated by a grand procession of trades, the decoration of the town, and a public dinner in the market place, to which about fourteen hundred persons sat down.

Notwithstanding the sacrifices the Company had made, the system of hawking went on as before; summary prosecutions before the Magistrates failed to abolish it, and people declared that hawking was a convenience rather than an evil, for it saved them a long journey to the Market. The result was that the Company were obliged to apply to Parliament for an amended Act to legalise hawking, and to levy tolls on all goods specified in their schedule. The principal portion of the revenue of the Company is now derived from the tolls on hawking. In 1876 the tolls from hawkers amounted to more than £700. The most important advantage which the Company has conferred on the town is the removal of the private slaughter houses from the back lanes, and compelling the butchers either to use the abattoirs provided by the Company, or build suitable premises of their own out of the town. An attempt was made to establish a cattle market at Upton in connection with the slaughter houses, but it did not succeed.

Among the visitors to Torquay during 1853 were the Grand Duchess Marie of Russia, eldest daughter of the Czar, and widow of the Duke de Leuchtenberg, and *suite;* the Grand Duchess Olga, the Grand Duchess Catherine

of Russia, and His Imperial Highness Duke George, of Mecklenburg-Strelitz; Her Imperial Highness the Duchess of Brabant, and His Highness the Duke of Brabant.

The Public Gardens at Torwood were taken possession of by the Local Board of Health in 1853. They were originally leased by Sir L. V. Palk to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, from whom subscriptions were annually raised for the purpose of keeping the grounds in order. The enlarged powers conferred upon the local governing body by the amended Public Health Act enabled them to acquire gardens and recreation grounds, and to defray the expenses out of the rates. In this way, subsequently, they secured the ground on the western end of Abbey Crescent, and converted it into a pleasant promenade for visitors.

In the month of January, 1854, disturbances occurred in various towns in Devonshire. As a measure of precaution, it was considered desirable by the magistrates of Torquay to reorganize the special constables who had been found so serviceable on a similar occasion in 1847, during the navvy riots. Five persons from among the most respectable inhabitants of the town, selected from a list given in by the magistrates' clerk, were requested each to secure the services of twenty others who would be ready to undertake the office of special constable. These several divisions assembled on the 14th of January at the Town Hall, where they were sworn in and received their staves. The Rifle Volunteers offered their services, which the magistrates accepted. It was thought expedient, however, to administer to them the oath as special constables, in order to preclude the possibility of their being individually exposed to vexatious prosecutions in the event of their using force to suppress a tumult. For it appears that although, as in the case of the Yeomanry Cavalry, they are exempt from being compelled to serve as special constables, volunteers cannot lawfully be called out in aid of the civil power without an express direction from the Lord-

Lieutenant. In addition to this effective body, Commander Story, having received a request to that effect from the Magistrates, instantly made such a disposition of the admirably-disciplined coastguardmen under his orders, as would have rendered their services available at a minute's notice for the suppression of a riot. There were sinister rumours floating about of projected attacks on tradesmen's shops and the market, but the arrangements which had been made by the Magistrates were tolerably well known, and the preservation of peace was doubtless due to these precautions.

The first Steeple Chases which took place in Torquay are especially noticeable from the fact that the ground on which they were held is now a thickly-populated district. These sports took place on Feb. 16th, 1854, at Plainmoor, or Victoria Park, as it is now known, on lands belonging to Mr. Cary. On the summit of a slope which commanded a complete view of the entire scene of action was erected a temporary stand capable of accommodating more than a thousand persons. The horses started at the left of a building in a meadow known as the Babbacombe Cricket Ground, passing over a stiff stone and brush fence to the stand hurdles. The next important leap was at the corner to the rear of the Free Church, and consisted of a high bank with dyke on the landing side. After crossing some fallow land at Plainmoor, a lane was next entered, but with a single jump on the going-out side. Taking the upland ground immediately in front of the stand, and running over some rough ploughed land lying parallel with the lane, the horses reached the extreme turning flag near The Quinta, and this brought them in the direction of the starting field, before reaching which was a tall brake, and, finally, close upon the latter was an artificial water leap, about twelve feet wide, well fenced with gorse. This overcome, the starting point was again gained, and the ground described having been twice more gone over, the winning

flag was reached at the stand, the hurdles having been removed, allowing a run in up a somewhat severe incline of some two hundred yards. There were forty-five leaps in the course. This was the only occasion on which the steeple chases were held in that locality.

In 1864 the steeple chases were revived, and have been held every spring, except in 1877, on lands between St. Mary-Church and Watcombe, on the sea-side of the turnpike road leading to Teignmouth.

An increasing demand for dwellings of a superior character drew into the town a number of workmen connected with the building trades. For these and their families very little accommodation was available, and much overcrowding was the result at Torre, Melville Street, and Pimlico. With the view of remedying this state of things, several gentlemen, acting with Mr. Palk, determined upon forming a local branch of the London Association for the Improvement of the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes. A preliminary meeting was held late in 1853, and in the following January a Company was formed. The Association was instituted under a charter, limiting the liability of the shareholder to the amount subscribed. There was no intention of making it a trading speculation, the sole object being to provide decent dwelling places for the families of the working classes. The capital subscribed was £2,540, in 102 shares of £25 each, distributed among 39 shareholders. The intention of the promoters was to erect a number of small cottages, and to extend their operations to baths and wash-houses. But as it was felt that the most pressing need was house room for single men, it was determined to meet this want at once. An eligible spot of ground was secured at the western side of Stantaway Hill, and on it a spacious Model Lodging House, having a red tile roof, was erected, from the designs of Mr. E. Appleton. It was opened in April, 1856, and was fitted up for the accommodation of fifty-two single men; for each of the

lodgers there was a separate lock-up sleeping place; and there was a large dining hall, reading room, and lavatories common to all. The benevolent designs of the promoters, however, utterly failed. The building was never fully occupied. At the opening there were four lodgers; in May, 1857, there were seventeen; and the greatest number was twenty-one; quite insufficient to pay expenses. The excuse was that there were too many restrictions on the liberty of the lodgers. In reality, the only restriction was that which required the doors to be closed at ten o'clock at night. For three years the Company kept on the Model Lodging House, and finding that there was no possibility of succeeding, the undertaking was dissolved. The house was afterwards carried on by a private individual as a speculation, but as that also failed, the building has since been converted into a beer house!

A few years later, as the difficulty of providing adequate house accommodation forced itself upon public attention, Mr. Palk determined if possible to meet it. He endeavoured to accomplish this by devoting the whole of the beautiful vale of Ellacombe to the erection of small dwellings suitable for working people. Up to this time Ellacombe was an exceedingly picturesque valley; containing only one house (where the new Primitive Methodist Chapel now stands), with a lodge entrance on the site of St. Michael's Church. This house was for many years the residence of Mr. Francis Garrett, a gentleman greatly esteemed for his Christian life and broad charity. The remainder of the valley consisted of gardens, fields, orchards, and hedgerows, enclosed on all sides by high hills. Sir James Clarke, M.D., when he visited Torquay forty years ago, was delighted with the vale, and declared that it was the most completely sheltered spot of any in the neighbourhood. Mr. Palk's design was to set apart the centre of the vale as an open space or recreation ground; around this central spot he proposed that rows of cottages should be built, and at a higher elevation streets and villa plots

were provided for. Mr. Palk explained his views at a public meeting held in Torquay on the 7th of September, 1859. He estimated that cottages containing a living room, wash-house, pantry, two good bed-rooms, and closet, with small garden at the back, would realise 7½ per cent. if let at £7 5s. per annum. He added that he should consider his Ellacombe scheme less satisfactory than he hoped it would turn out, if he could not reduce the rent even lower than that, for he was maturing a plan which would give the working man a kitchen, wash-house, and two bedrooms, at about £4 per annum, which would pay the builder from 7¼ to 7½ per cent. on the outlay. It was unfortunate that Mr. Palk's design was not completely realised. No sooner was the land thrown open for building purposes, than it was taken up by speculative builders, and the expensive nature of the designs, the increased cost of material and labour, and the great competition for the cottages, raised the rents to twice and three times the amount estimated by Mr. Palk as a fair rent for the working man to pay. Ellacombe has undergone a remarkable change; the valley has been filled up more than twenty feet and now forms Ellacombe Green, while a new town, with its church, chapel, and schools, has taken the place of fields and gardens.

It may, perhaps, not be out of place to mention here, that on the 16th of June, 1855, the last vessel built in the shipwright's yard under Beacon Hill, now the site of Messrs. Hearder and Grimshaw's stores on the New Pier, was launched. She was built by Mr. Shaw, and was 50 tons burthen.

Church rates were made and levied with unvarying regularity, without any decided opposition, until a Vestry Meeting held on the 19th April, 1855, when a proposal to make a church rate of one half-penny in the pound was met by an amendment "That this meeting, wholly disapproving of the justness of church rates, refuse to grant one for the

coming year." The latter having been carried, a poll was demanded. The poll lasted three days, April 20th, 21st, and 23rd, and the result was that there were for the rate 217 ; against 266—majority against the rate 49. Not content with this, the Vestry immediately resolved "That a petition be presented from this Vestry to the House of Commons in support of the Bill now pending in the House of Commons for the abolition of church rates, and that such petition be signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Vestry, and be forwarded to Mr. L. Palk, M.P., for presentation." The petition was as follows : "To the House of Commons of the realm, in Parliament assembled. The petition of the ratepayers of the ecclesiastical parish of Tormohun, in the county of Devon, in vestry assembled, hereby sheweth that your humble petitioners desire hereby to petition your Honourable House in support of the Bill now pending therein for the abolition of church rates. And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.—Signed on behalf of the Vestry.—Jos. H. Harris." Another demand for a church rate on the 13th of April, 1861, led to the parish being again polled, and the result was—for the rate 251 ; against 281 ; majority against the rate 30.

In the summer of 1856 Her Majesty again visited these shores. On Monday, the 11th of August, a squadron of steam ships was descried from the Babbacombe Downs, at half-past ten in the forenoon. It consisted of the royal steam yacht *Victoria and Albert, Fairy, Salamander, Osprey, Sparrowhawk, Black Eagle,* and *Vivid.* The vessels stood on and off Torbay some considerable time, while the Royal yacht made at once for Dartmouth harbour, which she entered at one o'clock. The squadron followed soon after, and anchored off the town of Dartmouth. Her Majesty and Prince Albert went on board the river steamer *Derwent,* in which they ascended the Dart beyond the beautiful grounds of Sharpham nearly as far as Totnes. The exquisite beauty of the upper reaches of the river were thoroughly

enjoyed by the royal party. On their return, Her Majesty and Prince Albert landed for the purpose of taking a drive, and were received at the steps of the quay by the Mayor, Aldermen, and Town Council. At night Dartmouth was brilliantly illuminated, a compliment which was responded to by the *Victoria and Albert*. On the following morning the squadron left for Plymouth.

During this year a great impetus was given to the building trade. Up to this time there was not a house on the south side of the road leading from Beenland Place to the Torre railway station excepting Pilmuir, Carclew, a thatched cottage, and Tor Abbey; the houses on the Warren Hill did not extend further than Bay Fort; beyond and round to the Abbey Sands there was a delightful plantation of trees and shrubs, through which a narrow footpath led to the Meadows. Daddy Hole Plain and the approaches to it were innocent of houses, and the slopes of the higher Lincombe and the Warberry were corn fields and plantations of pines and firs; while orchards within high hedges bounded the narrow turnpike road which led from the town to Bishopstowe. The populous suburbs at the end of the Upton Valley were then a furze brake and coppice.

In October His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Hon. Colonel Cavendish and Mr. Gibbs, his tutor, while on a tour in the West of England, paid Torquay a brief visit. The party drove from Teignmouth to Babbacombe, where they spent some hours. After passing through St. Mary-Church, they walked on to Torquay, and had a pleasant saunter through the streets. The Prince purchased a few ornaments at Bradford's, on the Strand, and the party left the Torre Station by the six o'clock train.

The royal visit was very quietly conducted, and very few of the inhabitants were aware of the honour conferred on the town until the Prince had left it.

The County Constabulary Act was applied in 1857 to all places not boroughs having a population below 15,000. Captain Gerald De Courcy Hamilton was sworn in as Chief Constable of the county of Devon on the 16th of January. The Local Board of Health of Torquay were very anxious to retain the power of appointing their own police. Several meetings were held, and memorials were sent to the Home Secretary urging that Torquay might be exempted from the operation of the Act; and it was advanced as a special argument, that although the population of the town was not quite 15,000 at the preceding census, yet there was reason to believe that that limit was exceeded at the time they wrote, and that, therefore, Torquay might reasonably claim to provide its own police arrangements. The inexorable reply of the Home Secretary was, that as the population at the last census was returned as under 15,000, he had no power to interfere. The result was that on the 20th of May eight constables were appointed to the district of Torquay, consisting of "two first class men (one a sergeant), three second class men, and three third;" the sergeant to reside at Torquay, and to have the supervision of Torquay, Paignton, St. Mary-Church, and Kingskerswell. The latter parish was afterwards transferred to the Newton portion of the police force, and a little later the Superintendent of the Division was required to make Torquay his head quarters.

At the Devon Quarter Sessions on the 7th of April, 1869, the parishes of Torquay and St. Mary-Church were constituted a separate police district of the Paignton Division, according to the provisions of the Act 3 and 4 Vic., cap. 88, sec. 27, with a force of twenty-five constables. Hitherto, as now, the two parishes belonged to the Division of Paignton, in which town the monthly Petty Sessions were held, at the Crown and Anchor Inn. Paignton was the superior court at which the more important divisional business—the granting of licenses, the appointment of overseers and constables—was transacted. The county

[illegible] a [illegible] for the [illegible] in Torquay, better adapted [illegible] than the Town Hall, which did [illegible] and accommodation—frequently a [illegible]—and which was already too small [illegible] of the Local Board [illegible] the Council opposite the higher entrance [illegible] Torquay Market, and the building had proceeded as far as the first floor, but these alterations considered too [illegible] the present Strathmore Hall was abandoned, [illegible] the Local Board. The present site was [illegible] which was the pleasure grounds of the late Mr. Francis Barnes's private residence, and the new [illegible] was commenced. The builder met with an unexpected [illegible] the necessity of all preconceived notions, the ground [illegible] of a boggy character. This entailed the sinking of [illegible] foundations, and the laying in of a firm [illegible] of concrete. The building is square in form, [illegible] in the centre. The architecture [illegible] the front of the building consists [illegible] Torquay limestone, dressed in the manner locally [illegible] that is to say, the stone is not [illegible] but [illegible] just as the blocks came [illegible] quarry. The dressings and ornamental details [illegible] Portland and Box's ground freestone, and the [illegible] the windows are of red Mansfield stone. There [illegible] eight capacious cells, each 16ft. 9in. by 6ft. 9in., and [illegible] high. There is ample accommodation for the superintendent, a sergeant, and married and single constables. The hall in which justice is administered is forty feet in length, twenty wide, and twenty in height. The edifice was built from the designs of Mr. Harbottle, by Mr. W. A. Goss, and was opened in September, 1876.

Sir L. V. Palk, the lord of the manor, who for many years had resided abroad, returned to Torquay on the 17th of June, 1857. He was received at the Torre Station by a large number of his tenantry, who presented an address to

him. Being advanced in years, and in infirm health, he could only briefly acknowledge the kindness which had thus been shewn him. He soon afterwards proceeded to Haldon, where he died on the 16th of May, 1860. He was succeeded in his title and estates by his eldest son, Mr. L. Palk, M.P. for South Devon, the present baronet.

A crime of peculiar atrocity was perpetrated on the evening of the 11th of November, 1857. Jonathan Roose, about nineteen years of age, called on a servant named Jane Stone, who was pregnant by him, and with a large stone, taken from the wall-coping, beat her head with it until he thought she was bereft of life. The girl was taken to the Infirmary, and with careful treatment recovered. Roose was tried at the Devon Spring Assizes in 1858, for attempting to murder, and was sentenced to penal servitude for life. The sentence was remitted in 1876, and Roose left the country for Australia.

An entertaining chapter might be written respecting the Russian gun. The Local Board of Health, in 1858, petitioned the War Office for one of the trophies captured during the Russian war. The request was granted, and in April, 1859, the gun arrived at the railway station. Amid fervent demonstrations of loyalty the trophy was drawn from Torre and placed in position on Cary Green. Some time afterwards, it was urged by several well-meaning persons that the sight of the gun must be exceedingly objectionable to the members of the Imperial Family of Russia who were residing in the town. In deference to their presumed sensitiveness the piece of ordnance was transported to the Market, and afterwards to Ellacombe Green, where it was treated as a piece of lumber. The absurdity of hiding away the gun out of respect to foreign visitors was repeatedly referred to by a member of the Local Board who held a commission in Her Majesty's service, and at length, in 1875, the Russian gun was restored to its old place on Cary Green.

The new Baths were opened on the 3rd of August, 1857.

The original bathing house was erected by the late Mr. W. Pollard in 1817, at the lowest house in Beacon Terrace, now Sealawn, where the water was pumped in from the sea. It was felt that, as the requirements of the town had outgrown the capabilities of this useful establishment, a much more comprehensive enterprise was called for. Accordingly, in 1852, a Company was formed; the site fixed upon for the Baths was the sea front of a picturesque little promontory, known as Beacon Hill, which separated the Bathing Cove from the Harbour. The shares were readily taken up by the trading community, who considered that such an undertaking would promote the prosperity of the town as a health-resort. The sea front of the hill was cut away, and thus sufficient space was obtained for the enterprise. The building, which is in the Italian style, contains on the principal floor a well-proportioned saloon forty-four feet in length, thirty-eight feet wide, and twenty-five feet high, with a beautifully-enriched dome ceiling. The bay windows open upon a terrace which commands a view of Torbay from the open channel to Waldon Hill. In either wing are hot, cold, plunge, douche, and shower baths, in separate compartments for ladies and gentlemen. There are also rooms appropriated for reading and other purposes. The whole of the basement is taken up by a spacious swimming bath, forty-five feet by forty-three, graduating in depth from seven feet to three. It communicates by four spacious arches with the open sea, access to which is obtained by steps leading from the dressing rooms into deep water at all times of the tide. The Ladies' Bathing Cove, on the eastern side of the building was greatly enlarged, and a substantial breakwater was made, extending from the eastern angle of the Baths to the Millstones, in order to protect the building from the violence of the south-easterly gales. This breakwater, however, was swept away during the great storm of October, 1859. The Baths were erected by Messrs. J. T. and W. Harvey, from designs prepared by Mr. Julian. Although the estab-

lishment has been a very important adjunct to the town, it was never a financial success. The Company were badly advised, and they met with obstacles from the first. There was an ever-recurring deficit at the end of the year; difficulties were met with which demanded additional means; money was borrowed in excess of the capital; and at length the Company wound up. As it had been incorporated before the limited liability principle was applied to such undertakings, the shareholders not only lost what they had invested, but were called upon to contribute *pro rata* towards paying off the debt. Subsequently the Baths passed into private hands, and are now the property of Sir L. Palk. The capital was £10,000, and the total liabilities incurred amounted to £13,000.

CHAPTER THE EIGHTEENTH.

The Water Supply as furnished by the Lords of the Manor.—Efforts to obtain a New Supply.—Purchase of Local Works by the Local Board. Obtaining Water from Dartmoor.—Bringing Home the Water.—The Source of the Supply.—Description of the Works.—An Analysis of the Water.—Defects in the Water Main.—An Ingenious Remedy.—Prince Alfred commencing his Naval Career in Torbay.—His Dining in the Abbey Road.—The Disastrous Accident in Beacon Terrace.

PERHAPS the greatest work accomplished by the Torquay Local Board of Health was the scheme for providing the town with water. The venture was commenced in 1856, and completed on the 8th of June, 1858. Previously to this the water was derived from wells, springs, the rainfall carefully collected in cisterns and tanks, or from the water-works of Sir L. V. Palk and Mr. Palk (the present baronet). These gentlemen, in granting leases to some of their tenants, had stipulated to provide them with water, but, as the town increased they found themselves called upon to supply the district irrespective of whether those who required it were tenants or not—a contingency which was never contemplated at the outset. Their supply was derived from the water-shed extending from Barton to the Coombe Valley, and was collected in a reservoir at Ellacombe. The water was exceeding hard, a quality imparted to it by the limestone of the district through which it flowed, and was, moreover, deficient in quantity. The question of obtaining a better supply had been under the consideration of the Board since the latter end of 1851. The authorities were fully cognisant of the defective character of the supply generally, but desired to stave off the responsibility of initiating a scheme of their own. Notwith-

standing the complaints with which they were inundated, the Board declared (May, 1852) that so long as the water was delivered according to the terms and conditions specified in a recent report from the owners of the water-works "it would not be necessary for them to interfere." The subject, however, was constantly pressed upon them, and, in consequence, in October, 1854, a special committee was appointed to ascertain the cost of providing water from Dartmoor. When this step was taken, the proprietors of the existing water-works sought for Parliamentary powers to supply the town. The Local Board, in February 1855, petitioned against the bill. The result of this step was that the proprietors offered to sell their plant and interest for £5,000. In the month of May, the same year, the Board "declined to agree to the conditions attached to the proposal made on behalf of the owners," nor would they withdraw their opposition to the bill unless some guarantee was given that the wants of the town should be amply met; they, however, expressed their willingness to renew their offer to refer the question of purchasing the water-works to arbitration. Shortly after this, the Committee instituted by the Board recommended two alternative schemes; the first was to utilise the stream at Keyberry, the second to bring in a Dartmoor streamlet from Hennock. The former was most in favour at first, being the least expensive. Subsequently the Board took a wider view of the question, and declared in favour of the Hennock scheme. Negotiations were entered into with the owners of the Torquay water-works, and after a protracted correspondence the sum of £5,250 was agreed upon as the price to be paid for the plant at Ellacombe and the land in fee required at Hennock. Parliamentary action on the part of the proprietors was withdrawn, and the bill promoted by the Local Board of Health was carried to a successful issue. The Board also acquired the water-works of Mr. Cary, at Torre Abbey and Babbacombe. In December, 1856, the Torquay water-works were commenced, under the supervision of Messrs. Easton and Amos,

engineers, and on June 8th, 1858, the water was brought into the town.* Owing to the great elevation of the source of supply above the level of the sea, it was found impracticable to deliver the water direct from the mains, as the enormous pressure would destroy service pipes of whatever strength. It was, therefore, found necessary to provide two local reservoirs, one on Chapel Hill, to distribute the water among the consumers on the lowest levels, and the other on the Warberry Hill, to supply the inhabitants of the higher levels. The bringing in of the pellucid stream was attended by very little ceremony. Half-a-dozen members of the Board, proceeding to Warberry Hill, descended through a trap-door into the covered reservoir, and at a given signal the water gushed out of the feed pipe. Owing to the difficulty of supplying the neighbourhood of the Warberry and the high level districts of the Lincombes, Meadfoot, St. Mary-Church, and Babbacombe, measures were taken for constructing another reservoir on the Warberry Hill. It was completed and opened on the 5th of October, 1872. It is 150ft. in length by 122ft. wide; the depth is 22ft., and the water rises 19ft. 6in. It contains 2¼ million of gallons; the smaller reservoir, which is still in use, has a capacity of about half a million gallons. The reservoirs are four hundred feet above the level of the sea.

The water is derived from a spring which rises from the granite at Blackiston Rock, near Dartmoor, distant four miles from the reservoir and eighteen from Torquay. Thence it runs onward as a brook, receiving a few small tributaries on its way, until it reaches a pleasant valley at Tottiford, in the parish of Hennock, eight hundred feet above the level of the sea. At first the main led from a small reservoir which was originally a mill pond; the yield was estimated at 720,000 gallons, but the actual delivery was 311,000, and never exceeded 494,694, until the main was cleared of obstructions. After a short time it was found

* Water from the main was let into the Chapel Hill reservoir on March 17th, 1858, but the above is the date of the formal opening of the Warberry reservoir, and of the distribution of the water in the town.

necessary to build a storage reservoir near the source, as the supply fell short in the summer months. In 1860 the Board obtained power to purchase land, and the area of the reservoir was extended from five acres to twenty-five; and in 1866 it was again found necessary to enlarge the reservoir by raising the dam. Little was needed to provide an ample storage reservoir. A strongly-built dam, spanning the valley at the lower end, accomplished the purpose. Accordingly, instead of a large rectangular enclosure, which the term reservoir conveys to most minds, this is in all respects a miniature lake, of an irregular and sinuous form. This lake is upwards of thirty-five acres in extent, and contains over 60,000,000 gallons of water. The dam itself is an embankment two hundred feet in length, one hundred and twenty feet wide at its base, thirty-three at the top, and twenty-six feet six inches in height. In the embankment is a wall of puddled clay, varying in thickness from three to five feet. The internal surface of the dam and the overflow weir are faced with granite. Two twelve-inch cast iron pipes, furnished with sluice valves, pass through the dam for the purpose of regulating the supply, which flows on to Newton by gravitation, through a ten-inch iron main, and from thence to Torquay in a nine-inch main. A roadway, enclosed between fences, is constructed on the top of the dam, and forms the means of access to the farms of the neighbourhood. The reservoir is enclosed with a turfed bank and low sheep rail, and on the top of the bank is a hedge. The dam was originally designed to be thirteen feet, and has been repeatedly raised since. The reservoir affords fairly good trout-fishing. The right of shooting the water-fowl is reserved by Lord Exmouth, of whom a considerable portion of the land was purchased. The entire cost of the works amounted to £68,000, which was raised on loan, the repayment to extend over a period of fifty years. The revenue derived from the water rent is more than sufficient to pay the expenses, the annual interest, and the amount set apart for the redemption fund.

The water is exceedingly pure. Mr. E. Smith, F.C.S., in a paper "On the Character of the Water supplied to Torquay" (published in 1873) says: "The chemical condition of a potable water is a matter of some importance, more particularly as to the presence and value of the organic matter therein contained. The quality and character of a water are fully and completely obtained by chemical analysis. In the case of doubtful or decidedly bad specimens, a microscopical and physical examination may sometimes afford interesting and instructive results. So far as regards the Tottiford water, the physical and microscopical examinations have yielded little or no results whatever; however, for the sake of placing the facts on record, I have appended the details of the complete investigation:—

Physical character	Colour*	none
	Taste	none
	Smell	none
	Transparency	Slight opacity from minute particles of suspended matter
Microscopical	Under a low power the suspended matter was seen to be composed of debris of leaves, woody fibre, parenchyma, &c. Several minute diatoms were observed, but nothing more than is usually found in the purest unfiltered water	

Chemical		Grains per gallon
	Soda	·653
	Lime	·595
	Magnesia	·287
	Lithia	?
	Ammonia	None
	Chlorine	·795
	Sulphuric Acid	·640
	Iron, Alumina, and Silica	·552
	Nitric Acid	None
	Nitrous Acid	None
	Phosphoric Acid	Trace
	Metals other than Iron	None
	Carbonic Acid	·323
	Suspended Matter	·805
	Total Solids per gallon	4·650

* Occasionally after heavy rains, the water is slightly discoloured by peaty matters, but without deleterious result.

Dissolved Gases.	cub. inches per gallon
Carbonic Acid	·082
Oxygen	2·535
Nitrogen	5·191
Total	7·808

Nitrogenous Organic Matter.	Grains per gall.
Reckoned as free Ammonia	·000233
„ Albumenoid	·005824
Total	·006057

Hardness ... ... 0°·61 (Clarke's)

"These figures will require a little interpretation. In the first place it will be noted that the total solids per gallon amount to 4·650 grains. By comparison we shall gain some idea of the value to be attached to these figures. The water at the Lake of Geneva contains 10·640 grains per gallon; the water supplied to London 21·660 grains; Loch Katrine water, considered to be the purest in Great Britain, is stated to contain so little as 2·30 grains." The water has been analysed in subsequent years, and invariably with the same results as above. The daily yield in the local reservoirs was calculated to be 600,000 gallons per day, or at the rate of twenty gallons per head per diem for a population considerably in excess of 20,000. The population was not then 18,000, but provision, it was thought, was made for all the wants of the town for thirty years to come. It was also originally intended that the supply should be continuous. Actual results, however, did not bear out the calculations, and the authorities were compelled to resort to an intermittent supply. So far from the estimated yield being realised, the Board, in a few years, saw with alarm that the daily delivery into the local reservoirs was diminishing. One of the pipes was taken up, when the cause of the deficiency was at once apparent. The extreme softness of the water had set up oxidation to such an extent, that the actual carrying capacity was reduced by about a third. In their

extremity the Local Board of Health consulted the late Mr. Appold, an eminent engineer. By his advice door-pipes were laid down at certain distances along the line of water main—that is, pipes which open on hinges longitudinally—for the introduction of an ingenious kind of scraper, of which Mr. Appold was the inventor. This scraper may be briefly described as an iron shank four feet long; at one end it is furnished with sharp knives diagonally arranged round it, which by means of powerful springs press outward. At the other end the piston is packed with leather to exactly fit the diameter of the pipe. The water having been drawn off, the scraper is inserted in the main by means of the door-pipe, which is then closed. When the water is turned on behind the piston it exerts a pressure of several tons, and by this means the scraper is propelled with great velocity, the steel knives effectually scraping off the oxidised matter, and thereby increasing the carrying capacity of the pipe. In this manner the main was treated, in sections, and many tons of oxide were removed. It was also found that oxidation was not the only cause of a reduced yield of water. It appears that in soldering the joints the workmen had carelessly allowed the molten lead to drop into the pipe itself, and these "lambs' tongues," as they are technically known, spreading across the pipe, materially arrested the passage of the water. In addition, a quantity of stones was taken from the pipes. Mr. W. Froude, a resident in the neighbourhood, cheerfully gave the Board the benefit of his engineering skill, and greatly improved the scraper. The cleaning process is now carried on at intervals of about a year, by the water-bailiff, Mr. T. S. Weeks, and the inflow is much larger than when the water was first brought into the town. The authorities supply St. Mary-Church and a portion of Newton with water, and contemplate extending their mains to the Cockington district, one house in it, Mr. Froude's, being already supplied by them. In 1877, the Board obtained powers for enlarging their works at Hennock, by making

another storage reservoir of 80 acres, and adding a new main in sections, by which a continuous supply will be secured of 1,000,000 gallons daily. The cost of this extension will be defrayed out of the water rents.

It may fairly be said that His Royal Highness Prince Alfred commenced his naval career on the waters of Torbay. On Tuesday, the 6th of July, 1858, H.M.S. *Euryalus*, 51 guns, Captain Tarleton, on a channel cruise, anchored off Torquay. The *Euryalus* had been selected for the Prince's first voyage, and as his Highness had never been privileged with a sight of his future floating home, it seems reasonable to infer that an arrangement had been made for the young sailor to see her in Torbay. At half-past ten o'clock on the morning of the 8th, the steam yacht *Black Eagle*, with Prince Alfred on board, arrived from Ireland. The yacht having run alongside the frigate, the Prince, accompanied by his tutor, Lieut. Cowell, R.E., was immediately conducted on board, when he was received by Capt. Tarleton, and formally introduced to his future messmates, by whom, as may well be imagined, the event was regarded with more than ordinary interest. The Prince, led by the Captain, inspected minutely the different parts of the vessel, and was well pleased with the arrangements, which, however, beyond the appropriation of a cabin for Lieut. Cowell, embraced nothing that could indicate the approaching abode of a Prince. Having remained on board about an hour, the Prince, bidding adieu to Capt. Tarleton and his officers, returned to the yacht, the visit having proved mutually satisfactory to the Prince and those on board. His Highness did not leave Torbay without having a trip on shore. Crowds had gathered on the quay to give him a hearty greeting; but, equally desirous of avoiding the excitement attending such a display of loyalty, he disappointed them by adopting the ingenious stratagem of his illustrious father a few years previously, namely, by landing at Babbacombe. While the Prince was on board the *Euryalus*,

his naval instructor, the Rev. W. R. Jolley, hurried ashore to pay a passing visit to his father, Mr. Jolley, surgeon, who was residing at Waterloo Cottage, in the Abbey Road. After this the reverend gentleman, taking a carriage and pair from the Queen's Hotel, drove to Babbacombe, whither the *Black Eagle* had already proceeded. On landing, his Highness was received by the Inspecting Commander and Chief Officer of the Coastguard, and the men belonging to the district, under arms. He was accompanied by Lieut. Cowell, Dr. Minter, and the Rev. W. R. Jolley. The party passed through the grounds of Mrs. Whitehead, and drove to the residence of the elder Mr. Jolley, where the Prince remained an hour and a-half. The *Black Eagle* had in the meantime returned to her former place off the pier. The crowd was still there, and more numerous than ever; but the people were again doomed to disappointment, for a boat was sent to the Torre Abbey Sands, from whence the party embarked. The *Black Eagle* sailed the same evening and the *Euryalus* left the next day.

A tragical event marked the close of the year. Beacon Terrace was built in 1833 by Mr. Jacob Harvey, and in the arrangement of the premises, the servants' apartments were placed behind the main terrace and detached from it. These back premises abutted against a high wall which retained a piece of ground intervening between it and the Park Hill Road above. This ground, originally a plantation of fir trees, had been converted into a kitchen garden, and to make it more suitable for the purpose the retaining wall was raised until the top stood several feet above the roofs of the servants' rooms, the total height being forty feet. A succession of heavy rains soaked the ground and rendered the new wall incapable of resisting the pressure to which it was subjected. On Monday night, the 20th of December, 1858, a block of masonry, eighty feet long and twenty in height fell upon the back premises of Nos. 2, 3, and 4, when the inmates were in bed. The whole of the rear part

of these houses were immediately converted into heaps of ruins. Mr. and Mrs. Hambling, lodging-house keepers at No. 4, were crushed to death; Mr. and Mrs. Hellier, at No. 3, were dug out of the debris, the former having a broken leg and the latter a fractured collar-bone; and Mr. and Mrs. Tanner, at No. 2, were much injured, though not dangerously.

CHAPTER THE NINETEENTH.

Origin of the Volunteer Movement in 1852.—The Rifle Association.—Raising a Battalion.—The Torquay Company.—The Field-Day in Torquay, 1853.—The Sham Fight in Torre Abbey Fields.—The Redoubt Carried by Assault.—Lord Palmerston and the Torquay Volunteers.—Efficiency of the Riflemen.—General Extension of the Movement in 1859.—Formation of Artillery, Irregular Horse, and Engineers.—Differences between the Exeter and Torquay Men.—Dismissal of the Latter.—Curious Case of a Corps Disbanded in 1803.

THE Volunteer movement, which has since become so popular, was evoked by a circular issued by the War Minister in May, 1859, inviting the formation of Volunteer Corps. In the case of coast towns preference was given to Artillery Volunteers. Undoubtedly this bold and patriotic step has greatly increased the moral power of England in the councils of European nations, and has happily put an end to the periodic war panics which from 1848 to 1859 disgraced our annals. The creation of this new arm of defence was forced upon the Government by the threatening attitude of France, many of the French colonels having petitioned the Emperor to be led against "perfidious Albion," in consequence of the Orsini conspiracy. It is not generally known, however, that the Volunteer movement really originated in Devonshire seven years before. During those years a complete company of Rifle Volunteers had been maintained in Torquay, and it was upon the experience which the working of the Devonshire Volunteers was enabled to supply, that the Minister of War, Mr. Sidney Herbert, formulated his instructions for the raising of a

citizen army. On the 13th of January, 1852, an influential meeting was held at the Minerva Rooms, Exeter, when a Club was organized under the title of the Exeter and South Devon Rifle Association, upwards of seventy gentlemen enrolling themselves as members. At a subsequent meeting it was determined to form a corps, and the Government having been communicated with, Her Majesty was graciously pleased to accept the services of the Association as the "South Devon Rifle Corps." Accordingly a battalion was authorised to be raised "within the district bounded on the south by Dartmouth, Totnes, and the right bank of the Dart; by Ashburton, Moretonhampstead, Crediton, and Tiverton, on the west and north; and the borders of Somerset and Dorset to the sea coast on the east; the companies forming the battalion to have several points of assembly for drill and exercise at times best suited to the local convenience of the members of the battalion, having Exeter for its head quarters." These were the boundaries originally defined by the authorities, but have been modified subsequently as other battalions have been called into existence. On the 5th of February, 1853, at a public meeting, it was determined to raise a company of Volunteers in Torquay, and on the 28th of the following month the adjutant attended and enrolled the first members who offered their services. Among those who took the oath of allegiance were H. B. Rodway, W. H. Kitson, W. Rodway, C. Rodway, H. Narracott, W. Marler, J. T. Fisher, J. Ellis, H. Rowe, E. Bond. A Town Committee was formed to promote the organization and provide funds, and in a short time the number of recruits was considerably increased. Mr. Rodway, who had taken the greatest interest in forming the company, was unanimously requested by the members to allow himself to be nominated as their superior officer; he gave his consent, and on December 23rd, 1853, received his commission as captain, and as major, November 4th, 1863. Sir Stafford Northcote presided over a meeting held at Exeter on the 2nd of July, when it was resolved,

"That this meeting has heard with satisfaction the report of the progress of the Volunteer Rifle Corps, the first, and it is understood the only one yet under the royal sanction, and highly appreciates the importance of the subject. That this meeting gratefully receives Her Majesty's gracious sanction to the formation of the corps as a high compliment to the county, involving a loyal obligation on the part of the inhabitants to aid the undertaking by every possible means; and that this object may be best obtained by such contributions to the funds of the corps as may enable the commanding officer to exercise his discretion in issuing arms to properly qualified persons free of expense." The Volunteers were required to provide uniforms, arms, and accoutrements, at their own expense, or at the cost of the local committee, exception being made in special cases, where the arms were supplied free. The first general muster of the battalion took place at Torquay on the 29th of August. The men, eighty in number, marched to Daddy Hole Plain and were drilled. Arrangements had been made for a sham fight. The coastguard of the neighbourhood assembled in their galleys with the intention of making a descent on Torquay, and the defence was entrusted to the Volunteers, but the rain fell so heavily and persistently that this part of the programme was abandoned. The affairs of the Company progressed so satisfactorily that it was considered if the Volunteers were to assume their proper position, the force must be considerably augmented. Accordingly an effort was made, and in less than twelve months there were nearly seventy rank and file. The strength of the Torquay Rifle Volunteers has never gone below that number—a convincing proof of the patriotism of the town, especially when it is remembered that there was not then that cordial sympathy shown for the movement in influential quarters which is now so freely bestowed by the highest military authorities. In 1854, Mr. W. H. Kitson and Mr. W. Rodway received their commissions, the first as lieutenant and the second as ensign,

both having enrolled as privates and served as such up to the date of their commissions. A field day and sham fight on the Torre Abbey Meadows reads somewhat oddly now, the scene of the day's exploits being intersected by roads, and occupied by palatial mansions, villas, crescents, terraces, and streets. Nevertheless, such an event did take place on the 25th of July, 1855, and deserves a passing notice, in consequence of its occurring so long before the Volunteer movement became general. The Torquay men, reinforced by the members of the more distant companies, assembled in the forenoon, under Capt. and Adjutant Moore (Exeter), Capt. Rodway, Capt. T. Pearson (Totnes), Lieut. W. H. Kitson, Ensign Rodway (Torquay), and Lieut. Haynes (Totnes). It may be added that Sir John Buller, M.P., as Colonel of one of the local Militia regiments, his son, Capt. Yarde Buller, and several military officers, were present. Having formed into three divisions, the Volunteers marched to the Torbay Road, where an active contest was entered into for six prizes offered by the Torquay Companies—three iron targets having been moored five hundred yards off the sea wall. On the signal to cease firing being given, the men were marched to a marquee on the fields for refreshment. The mimic combat took place in the afternoon. The site of the present Abbey Crescent was a bramble brake, with clumps of fir trees behind, and was separated from the Torbay Road by a low wall. The yew tree now within the boundary wall of Crosby Lodge stood guardian at a little wicket gate which led to the paths that wound along the well-wooded hillside; the narrow beaten track at the lower side of the field is now taken up by Belgrave Road; while up the valley, where the house known as Nepaul is situated, was a reservoir, which from its circular form and sloping sides had the appearance of a redoubt, and was utilised as such, the defenders being a party of workmen from Messrs. Starks' foundry. Two companies were formed, and an advance guard thrown out from the line which proceeded up the centre of the field,

on the north-east of Torre Abbey. It was immediately received by a smart fire from an unseen foe in rifle pits, surrounding a masked battery of nine guns. The main body, covered by skirmishers, then advanced in line, and the skirmishers having been recalled commenced file firing. The guns in the redoubt were then unmasked and opened fire. The line retired by files from the right of divisions, the movement being covered by the skirmishers. Having gained cover, there was a cessation of firing on both sides. The Rifles proceeded to take up a new position, a direct approach to the redoubt being impracticable. A few skirmishers were detached to the left, and the main body, still under cover, proceeded to the wood on the right; a central division, under Capt. Pearson, formed in skirmishing order and threatened the fort, while Capt. Rodway passing in his rear, occupied ground in a field behind. Skirmishers were then thrown out from the centre division, under cover of whose fire, Company No. 1, forming a column of attack, charged across the ditch on the north side and entered the earthworks; the detached parties at first thrown out, but afterwards recalled, entering simultaneously on the west. The red flag on the staff was lowered and the Union Jack hoisted in its place, amid the hearty cheers of thousands of spectators. It would be difficult to describe the excitement which this excellently-planned scheme created. There was one slight casualty of an amusing kind. In order to heighten the effect, one of the men in the earthworks was directed to discharge some rockets; in doing this one of the rockets slipped off the board on which it was placed and fell into a bucket containing the ammunition. The explosion which followed caused some confusion for the time, and one of the garrison was carried off to the Infirmary slightly burned.

It has been remarked in a former page that the Volunteer movement in the West was not looked upon with much favour in influential quarters; and it may be added that it was a standing joke among military officers, although it

must be admitted that they have since condoned this slight by the most honourable co-operation. In the House of Commons, Lord Palmerston, on one occasion, in his proverbially jocular manner, referred rather slightingly to the amateur soldiers. Curiously enough the Volunteers of Torquay had an opportunity of returning good for evil. On the 26th March, 1857, after an electioneering trip to Tiverton, the Prime Minister came on to Torquay for a brief sojourn. His intended visit came to the knowledge of Capt. Rodway, who determined that he should be received with military honours. The Rifles were called out, marched to the Torre Station (for the line did not extend further at that time), and were drawn up on the platform. The express swept into the station, and as the Premier stepped out from the carriage the Volunteers presented arms, the band played the National Anthem, and the spectators cheered lustily. His lordship was astonished at such unexpected honours. "Who are these?" said he to the friends who had come to meet him. "Oh!" said they, "The Torquay Volunteers!" "Volunteers! Volunteers!" he slowly repeated, as he collected his thoughts together; "Oh! yes, I remember." Then with an extremely gratified look he walked down the line of Rifles, and entering his carriage, drove away amid the cheers of the crowd, whose enthusiasm knew no bounds. A few days afterwards Capt. Rodway was honoured with the following letter:—

"The Cove, 30th March, 1857.

"Sir,—I request you to accept for yourself, and to convey for me to the other members of the corps, my best thanks for the honour which you and your corps did me on Saturday afternoon on my arrival in Torquay.

"I am, Sir,

"Yours very faithfully,

"H. Barron Rodway, Esq. "Palmerston."

The experiment of trusting arms in the hands of citizens as Volunteers—about which there was much contention at first—thoroughly succeeded in Torquay; the

battalion drills at Powderham Park and the field days at Milber Down were holidays for the people, and the annual dinners given by the officers were events to be remembered. There was a strong feeling of cordiality among the men, which was encouraged in every way by Capt. Rodway, who was undoubtedly the life and soul of the movement in Devonshire. It is a great thing to say, but it is no less true than great, that Torquay maintained a full company of Volunteers for several years, when the Exeter companies had dwindled down to less than twenty; in fact, at one time the Volunteers in Exeter might as a body be said to have been extinct. The company enjoyed the proud distinction of being the first in England. The vitality shown in Torquay was to some extent due to the Rifle Club, a body of gentlemen of the neighbourhood, who, while encouraging the use of the rifle, raised funds to assist in the maintenance of the Volunteers and to provide prizes and challenge cups for shooting. At the head of the Association was Mr. March Phillipps, who, perceiving what this little germ of volunteering might be developed into, advocated it in pamphlets and letters to the Cabinet Ministers and the Lords-Lieutenant of counties.

In the autumn of 1858 and the spring of 1859 the aspect of the Continent was very warlike, and a rupture with France was deemed imminent, for the Emperor had been importuned over and over again to declare war against England. As usual, there was a panic; the subject occupied every one's mind, and at the dockyards and arsenals unusual activity prevailed. An incident occurred about this time in connection with the Riflemen which is worthy of notice. At the dinner to which the men were invited by their officers on the 13th of February, at the Union Hotel, 60 riflemen sat down. In front of the gallery was suspended the target at which four of the members had that day been practising, and it was riddled with holes. On the point of one of the bayonets forming an ornamental trophy in the room was the cartoon of *Punch* issued that week,

representing the Gallic Cock crowing on a dung-hill, with a quotation from the address of the Colonel of the 82nd presented to the Emperor demanding to be led against "the den of assassins." Beneath this piece of braggadocia was suspended a glove, which from its position seemed to be a quiet, unpretending, yet significant intimation that whenever the wordy-valorous 82nd thought proper to put their words in execution, the Torquay Riflemen would be prepared for active service.

In May, 1859, the Secretary of State for War invited the formation of Volunteer companies, and in a few months battalions and regiments of infantry, batteries of artillery, and squadrons of cavalry, sprang into existence throughout the length and breadth of the land. Immediately upon the publication of the Government circular, measures were taken for raising a second company of Riflemen, which was accomplished within a few months. In December, two companies of Artillery, the Fourth Devon Volunteer Artillery Battery, was formed under Mr. E. Vivian, on whom was shortly after conferred the rank of Major*; a troop of Mounted Rifles was formed under Lord Seymour; and a meeting of the deputy-lieutenants and magistrates was held at the Castle of Exeter in order to consolidate the Volunteer movement. Government supplied the Artillery with two twenty-four pounders, and these were got into position on the 4th of May at a battery on Corbon Head. The movement was entered into most heartily, and so rapid was the progress made, that the local Volunteers were able to hold a rifle contest at Newton, in October, 1860, lasting several days; there were present, 650 infantry and 130 cavalry.

Lord Palmerston was enabled to see for himself the patriotic spirit with which Torquay responded to the appeal from the War Office, for on the 26th of March, 1861, Lord and Lady Palmerston again visited Torquay. The Riflemen were drawn up on the platform of the Torquay railway

* In 1861 the Artillery Volunteers presented Major Vivian with a sword.

station, and when the train came in his lordship was received by Major Vivian, and the Rifles saluted by presenting arms; the Volunteer Artillery fired a salute of nineteen guns from their battery on Corbon Head, an honour to which his lordship was entitled as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

Considerable honour was conferred upon the Volunteers of Torquay by the achievements of Sergeant Henry Rowe at the second annual meeting of the National Rifle Association at Wimbledon. The greatest number of points at the 250 yards range for the Queen's Prize was made by Sergeant Rowe; in shooting off ties, Rowe was second, and thus became one of the first twenty to each of whom was awarded a Whitworth rifle. His winnings altogether were a Whitworth, value £25; Lord Dudley's prize, £50; a Westley-Richards rifle, value £35, with £35 added; making in all a money value of £155. On arriving at the railway station he was met by the Volunteers, the band, and a number of the inhabitants, by whom he was escorted through the town to his home. Some days afterwards he was entertained at a public dinner, and he had the additional honour of having his portrait published in the *Illustrated London News*. A silver bugle was presented to the Riflemen on the 9th of April, 1861, by Lady Palk; the ceremony taking place on Daddy Hole Plain. In 1866 the Riflemen presented Capt. W. H. Kitson with a handsome drawing room bronze clock.

The Volunteer Engineers were not formed until 1862. Major Rodway was desirous of having a few pioneers attached to the Riflemen, but this was afterwards improved upon and a company of Engineers was the result, under the command of Captain Edward Appleton. This led subsequently to the formation of similar companies at Exeter and Crediton.

The companies forming the Exeter and South Devon battalion of Rifle Volunteers worked harmoniously together until the summer of 1876, when unfortunately an irre-

parable breach took place. In July preparations were made for a grand review in Hyde Park, which the Volunteers were invited to attend. It was understood that the number to be sent by the Exeter and South Devon battalion was restricted to one hundred. The Torquay companies attended the drills at Exeter that were deemed necessary to qualify them, and up to the last moment they were led to believe that some of them would be selected. But the day before they were to leave for London they were informed that the representation of the battalion would be confined to the Exeter men. It subsequently transpired that actually one hundred and sixty-four men were sent instead of one hundred. Feeling themselves slighted, the Torquay Riflemen asked their Lieutenant-Colonel, the Earl of Devon, for an enquiry into the circumstances, but an official investigation was refused. Then they asked for permission to transfer themselves to the Fourth battalion, having its head-quarters at Newton. This also was refused, but they were told that they might join the Totnes company as supernumeraries. The Commander-in-Chief, by letter, gave permission to the Torquay men to form an independent corps, which they at once accepted, but as they could not for many reasons go to Totnes as supernumeraries, the Lieutenant-Colonel dismissed them from Her Majesty's service.

Curiously enough, more than seventy years ago a corps of Volunteers on the Torbay shore was disbanded under what may now be considered singular circumstances. In 1802 and 1803 there were bread riots throughout the kingdom. In this district much discontent prevailed. In 1803 it was determined by the people of Brixham to urge upon the farmers the desirability of selling their corn to the millers, because at that time people who held stocks of corn were holding back in the expectation of getting still higher prices. It was thought that if a procession of the townspeople were formed and visited the farmers in a body

some good might be done. Arrangements for the procession were made, and a paper for signature was drawn up, in which all who signed it expressed their willingness to sell their corn to the millers. One fine morning in the autumn the procession started from Lower Brixham, headed by the band. Many of the Brixham Volunteers or Fencibles were there in uniform, and with arms in their hands; two or three of the officers were also present. The bulk of the procession consisted of fishermen attired in brand-new Sunday clothes, by all of whom the event was looked upon as a holiday. During the day several farm houses were visited, at all of which the party were treated to bread, cheese, and cider, and the farmers readily signed the paper. Accordingly, the Brixham folks returned in the evening full of good spirits, and assured that their spirited policy would have an effect in reducing the price of bread. A week after the event there was an unusual commotion in Brixham. The Captain of the Volunteers had received an order to assemble all the men belonging to his company on a certain evening, under arms and with all their accoutrements. From this and other indications, it was evident that there was something wrong, and this vague impression became realised when it was understood that a certain farmer living at Watton had laid information on oath that an armed mob came to his house, and that he had been induced to sign a paper presented to him by an officer in uniform, under arms, from fear and not willingly; also that he had given them cider and other refreshments under a sense of danger to himself and family; and that the mob was headed by Volunteers, two of whose officers known to him personally, were present taking an active part in the proceedings. Matters looked very "fishy" for the fishing town of Brixham, and the state of things was not improved when it became known that a couple of Bow street runners were in the town. The mission of the latter turned out to be fruitless, for on a sudden the two Volunteer officers translated themselves from Brixham to par-

unknown, and did not return until many years afterwards. On the day appointed, the Volunteers were assembled in Underhay's yard, under the command of their Captain, who, fortunately for himself, from illness had been unable to take part in the procession. Colonel Drake and another officer rode into the yard. After a very brief inspection the men were ordered to pile arms. When this was done, Col. Drake quietly walked out to the road, and signalled to a mounted orderly who had been stationed half way up Fore Street; the orderly passed on the sign to another, and in a few minutes a troop of cavalry trotted into the yard and surrounded the Volunteers. The arms and accoutrements having been given up on the spot, the Volunteers were reprimanded, disbanded, and dismissed.

As in recent years, so in times gone by, Devonshire was to the fore in measures of defence. In 1804 the Volunteers of the Kingdom, comprising cavalry, artillery, and infantry, amounted to 379,943; the county returned as the highest was Devon, with 15,212; while Lancashire had 14,279; York (West Riding) 14,006; London, 12,460; Westminster, 10,684; and Kent, 10,296.

CHAPTER THE TWENTIETH.

Railway Excursion.—The Atmospheric Trial.—The Break-down.—Opposition to any Station being made at Torquay than Aller.—The Opening of the First Station.—The Procession and Rejoicings.—Excursion Tickets for an Excursion.—A Fish Quay at Livermead proposed.—Suggested Excursion to the Harbour.—Commencing the Embankment Branch.—Laying the First Sod by Mr. L. Palk.—Opening of the Line to Torquay and Paignton.—The Monster Pudding at Paignton.—Fire at the Mills.—Its Disastrous Fate.—Pudding by Rail.—Rivalry between Town and Torquay.—Loss of Trade.—The Omnibus Accommodation.—Its Change.—Opening the Line to Brixham. Guests Invited to a Fish Dinner, and no Fish.—Telegraphing for a Turbot.—The Reputation of Brixham Saved.

THE Railway to Torquay and Paignton was opened on the 1st of August, 1859; but, before proceeding to give an account of that important event in the history of the town, it is desirable to state a few particulars respecting the progress of the railway system in the district. The South Devon Line was opened from Exeter as far as Newton on the 31st December, 1846, and passengers between that town and Torquay were conveyed by coach. It was originally intended to propel the trains by atmospheric pressure, the first trip by this motive power being made near Exeter in February, 1847; and on the 20th of September a train was taken as far as Teignmouth. While these experiments were being made, the traffic was carried on by the ordinary locomotive steam engine. The atmospheric project, however, failed in actual working, and at a meeting of the shareholders held at Plymouth it was determined to abandon it. A few months afterwards the ponderous tubes were taken up and sold for old iron. The

line to Torre was opened for traffic on Monday, December 18th, 1848, after being vehemently opposed by a few of the inhabitants who were of opinion that if a station for Torquay were erected at Aller, a hamlet between Newton and Kingskerswell, it would meet all the requirements of the town. Happily the counsels of these anti-railway people did not prevail. The Company had obtained power to continue the line to the bottom of the Upton Valley, at the back of Upton Church, where it was proposed to place the Torquay Railway Station. The requisite land was bought for that purpose. But Dartmouth and the district around appealed, time after time, for the line to be carried in their direction, and hence it was deemed desirable to stop short at Torre, that being the most convenient point from whence any future extension to Dartmouth could be made. The formal opening of the line to Torre was observed as a holiday; the poor were feasted, and the inhabitants dined together; to the former were distributed 4,834 pounds of meat and the like quantity of bread, the cost being defrayed by public subscription. A procession of considerable pretension left the Hotel Square at eleven o'clock, and marched along the Strand, Lower Union Street, and Torre, to the Railway Station, to give a becoming reception to the Directors. Shortly after twelve o'clock the telegraph announced that the train containing the Directors had left Newton, and very little time elapsed before it was seen, decorated with evergreens, flowers, and flags, approaching rapidly down the incline under Chapel Hill. Sir John Buller, who led the procession from Torquay, gave the signal for three hearty cheers as the Directors landed on the platform. The cheers, in the words of the local chronicler of the event, "were echoed by the multitudes on the surrounding hills, assuring the Directors that in Torquay at least they had a cordial welcome, and that the enterprise and exertions of the Company were duly appreciated." A congratulatory address was presented and promptly responded to by Mr. Woollcombe, the Chairman of

the South Devon Railway Company. A special train which had been arranged for by the local committee then started on an excursion to Newton. It consisted of nine first-class carriages* and fifteen second, and into these about two hundred persons entered. "It was propelled," says the authority just quoted, "with great ease by a single engine, and the seven miles [six] between Newton and Torre was performed in thirteen minutes." The return journey was made in eleven minutes. There was a grand dinner at the Royal Hotel that evening in honour of the event. As soon as this initial step of opening up the South Hams, as this district is termed, was accomplished, the inhabitants of Paignton, Brixham, and Dartmouth, urged upon the railway authorities the necessity of providing facilities for the transportation of fish nearer to Torbay than the station at Torre. It may here be mentioned that those who were largely concerned in the important fish trade of Brixham maintained expensive establishments of horses and vehicles in order to convey the produce of the fishery from Brixham to Torre. As an illustration of the importance and character of the fish traffic, it may be mentioned that Mr. Wintle, of the London Inn, Brixham, kept large light spring vehicles, very much after the style of the modern "brake" or waggonette, to which was harnessed four fast-going carriage horses. By this means fish for the distant markets were conveyed to the train at Torre, where it often happened that the vehicles arrived after the train had left. Nothing daunted, the driver, knowing that the train must stop at least half-an-hour at Newton, and relying upon a possible delay, would push on for Teignmouth, and reach that town in time to save the train. On a summer evening it was a sight to see these vehicles racing on to Torre, and many persons were in the habit of walking on to Livermead to see them pass.

The directors were fully alive to the importance of the

* In the report of the proceedings the term *carriages* is evidently applied to *compartments*.

demand made upon them, and in January, 1849, they, by letter, stated that they contemplated extending the line to Livermead, and "providing facilities for landing fish from Brixham by erecting a quay at Livermead." Unfortunately for the Company, but happily for Torquay, they were unable to realise what they had projected. The tremendous losses which the breakdown of the atmospheric system entailed paralysed their efforts; and, further, an extension in this direction was frustrated by the enforced necessity of watching and opposing the advances of rival companies in other quarters. It was not till eleven years later that the line was opened to Torquay, and then not by the South Devon, although they gave very material aid. In 1854 an agitation was raised for extending the railway from Torre to the harbour, and a petition to that effect was sent by the Torquay Local Board of Health to the directors of the South Devon, they having a Bill at that time before Parliament. The proposal was advanced quite as much on sanitary grounds as for public utility. The design was to tunnel under Torre, to emerge somewhere near the Abbey Road, and then to follow the line of George Street and Swan Lane; by this plan the whole of that poor neighbourhood would have been swept away. Meetings were held at Brixham, from which petitions were sent to Parliament against the extension to Torquay, unless a quay was provided at Livermead. But the Bill was withdrawn in April, and the intended Admiralty survey respecting the portion of the harbour to be taken was not held, the depressed state of the railway interest, in consequence of a fall in the funds, being the cause of the postponement. All the efforts of the South Devon coming to nought, the inhabitants of the district took up the question of carrying on the line to Dartmouth. The first attempt was made during what is known as the railway mania; the directors were largely connected with the commercial world; the scheme was unsuccessful, and left many bitter regrets behind. The second was made in 1852, when the constitution of the directors was chiefly

local; but this scheme failed in turning that terrible corner so prejudicial to many Bills, the 31st of December, by which date the capital is required to be paid up. The last and successful effort was begun in 1856; but the directors experienced many difficulties in the selection of a line which should not be expensive and yet at the same time meet satisfactorily the wishes of those who had become shareholders. This was the Dartmouth and Torbay Railway Company. The preponderating majority of the shareholders invested their money not expecting to receive any immediate or direct profit, but shrewdly anticipated that as the district was opened up they would derive an advantage from the increased value of the land and house property. In order to insure a certain amount of revenue from the line an ingenious expedient was determined upon. Torquay was anxious at that time that the line should be brought nearer to the harbour; Brixham required a quay at Livermead. The directors resolved to place the station at Livermead, which would to some extent satisfy both parties. But, further than that, by this arrangement they not only accommodated Torquay, and Brixham partially, but secured to themselves a return which would go far towards meeting the deficiency on the other parts of the line. For instance, every person who booked to Torquay (not Torre) would have to travel over the first mile of the Dartmouth and Torbay railway from Torre to Torquay. This skilful adjustment of means to an end undoubtedly saved the Company from absolute insolvency.

The first sod of the Dartmouth branch was turned on Thursday, January 31st, 1858, by Mr. L. Palk, assisted by Mr. Woollcombe, the Chairman of the South Devon Company. The event was a memorable one, for it was the next step towards the realization of the dream of a South Hams railway, connecting Torquay and Dartmouth with Kingsbridge and Plymouth. There were vast multitudes to witness the ceremony; the Mayor and Corporation of Dartmouth attended in their robes, and the Volunteers fired

three volleys in honour of the occasion. The directors of the various companies concerned having met at the Torre Station, marched thence to a site in a field about five hundred yards further down the valley. Congratulatory speeches were made, and Mr. Palk, taking the spade, proceeded to do the work assigned to him; but, to the amusement of the people and himself, he proved to be a very indifferent gardener; for, although the sod was already prepared, he was obliged to have recourse to his left hand to get it on the spade. The Chairman of the South Devon, Mr. Woollcombe, scarcely proved better, for he went to work with such energy that the handle snapped off in his hands.

The work was pushed on with great rapidity, notwithstanding that the conglomerate rocks at Chelston, through which a cutting had to be made, was as difficult to remove as the hardest limestone; and in eighteen months the line was opened to Torquay and Paignton, namely, the 1st of August. It may be here remarked that months before the opening day the inhabitants of Paignton had been holding meetings and arranging in what form the advent of the railway into their parish should be commemorated. It was at length determined to feast the poor and make a monster pudding. It is said that, according to an old charter, the inhabitants of Paignton every fifty years give a large plum pudding to the poor. The previous one was made on the 1st of June, 1819, and although the jubilee of fifty years was short by a whole decade, the inhabitants resolved to anticipate it on the ground that so great an event as the opening of a railway could only be adequately commemorated by the eating of a great pudding. It appears that the pudding made in 1819 weighed in all nine hundred pounds, and was composed of four hundred weight of flour, 120 lbs. of suet, 120 lbs. of raisins, and a large number of eggs. It was boiled in a large brewing copper at the Crown and Anchor Inn; it was contained in a huge bag, which was held in a net suspended to a beam, from which it was lowered by a

tackle into the boiler, and kept just three inches off the bottom. After boiling for three days it was hoisted out, placed on a waggon, and drawn to the Green by three horses. But those who had assembled to eat the pudding were doomed to disappointment; the outside, from the constant boiling, had been reduced to the consistence of paste, and the inner part was not even warm. In order to secure success on the present occasion, it was arranged that the pudding should be baked in sections, eight sections forming one layer, the whole being afterwards built together. The pudding consisted of 573 lbs. of flour, 191 lbs. of bread, 382 lbs. raisins, 191 lbs. currants, 382 lbs. suet, 320 lemons, 144 nutmegs, 95 lbs. of sugar, a quantity of eggs, and 360 quarts of milk; the cost was £45. When completed the weight of it was one ton and a-half; it was thirteen feet six inches in circumference at the base, and five feet at the top. Besides this remarkable pudding, there were provided 1,900 lbs. of meat, 1,900 lbs. of bread, and an unlimited supply of the staple product of the Paignton orchards,—cider. The intention of the promoters was to feast the poor of the parishes of Paignton, Marldon, and Stoke Gabriel, as well as the navvies who had worked on the line, and their wives and families. Twelve lines of tables were erected on the Green, where the dinner was to take place. The best arrangements had been made by Mr. John Belfield, J.P., of Primley, but unfortunately that gentleman had been subpœned to attend the Assizes at Exeter on the day of the feast, and to his absence may be attributed the untoward contretemps which afterwards occurred. At twelve o'clock the procession moved off from Primley towards the Green; the prominent features in it were the waggon of bread, two waggons of meat, each drawn by three horses, and the great pudding, drawn by eight horses. Arrived at the Paignton Green, the people took their seats and were supplied with the bread, meat, and cider, by a number of gentlemen, farmers, and tradesmen, who acted as carvers and waiters. The pudding was

to have been cut up and served after the dinner; for that purpose the waggon containing it was brought within the rope fence which surrounded the tables, and placed in the centre. As the pudding was about to be distributed, the outside public clamoured for slices; and, breaking down the fence, attempted to help themselves. Five policemen mounted the waggon to protect the committee as well as the pudding. Seeing the turn affairs were taking, the navvies and others at the tables, imagining that they were likely to be deprived of the toothsome delicacy, left their seats and swelled the tumultous throng by whom the unfortunate pudding, committee, and policemen, were beleaguered. The mob literally swarmed round the waggon, and mounting the wheels, proceeded to demolish the pudding; alarmed at the menacing attitude of the crowd, the committee threw the pudding piecemeal amongst them. A disgraceful scene followed, in which men, women, and boys, struggled and fought for the possession of the pieces thrown out from the waggon; and this continued until not a morsel was left. At three o'clock in the afternoon the first train came in with excursionists; but there were neither addresses presented nor speeches made, for the majority of the directors were in London. It was estimated that there were not less than eighteen thousand persons present at Paignton on that day. For weeks afterwards the Post Office was inundated with greasy packets, containing morsels of the pudding, sent off as so many souvenirs to distant friends.

No sooner was the railway opened to Torquay than a great outcry was made against the Company. The directors, to distinguish one station from the other, had agreed to give the name of Torre to the northern or upper one, which had hitherto been known on the railway tables as Torquay, and to name the lower station at Livermead as Torquay. The express trains also which stopped at the lower station passed by the upper. Meetings were held, at which some very absurd proposals were made; one was to name the stations North Torquay and South Torquay; and another,

to distinguish them, as Tormoham and Torquay. It was also urged that all trains should stop at Torre. Mr. Carr, the Secretary of the South Devon Company, wrote on the 2nd of November, in reply to a deputation, "That after a full consideration of all the circumstances laid before the directors by the different deputations in reference to the station at Livermead, the directors are of opinion that it would be inexpedient to discontinue the existing arrangements as to the stoppage there of the trains running in connection with the express trains, or to make any alteration in the existing names of the stations at Torre and Torquay." But this was not the only consequence of the opening of the Torquay railway station. Hitherto all the traffic between the lower part of the town and the Torre railway station passed through Lower and Higher Union Streets; the hotel omnibusses rattled along this thoroughfare to and from the station, and pedestrians bound for the same destination adopted the same line of route. From this it will be understood that Union Street was a very flourishing and business-like quarter. When, however, the route of the omnibusses was diverted to the Torquay station, along the Torbay Road, Union Street was almost deserted except by those who lived in it. The people became alarmed, and all sorts of remedies were suggested; the most practical, and which was carried into effect, was the formation of an "Omnibus Association," with the modest capital of £500, in £1 shares. One omnibus was started to begin with, on the 3rd of October, the intention being to ply between the Union Hotel and Torre. As a preliminary, however, the turnpike trustees demanded and were paid in advance for twelve months the sum of £100, as a composition in lieu of tolls. This crippled the Association, and at the end of a month, omnibus, horses, and plant, were sold. For some time the trade in Lower Union Street undoubtedly languished, but in a few years afterwards, when Ellacombe was opened up and built over, when the Upton side of the St. Mary-Church Road was taken up with villas, and the

fields and meadows between Waldon Hill and the two railway stations were laid out for mansions and terraces, the trade increased to much larger proportions than it had ever attained before the omnibus traffic was diverted.

Several proposals have of late years been made for bringing the line to the harbour; one was projected by Sir L. Palk, who offered to give up a part of his harbour; another was to carry a line on piles across the inner bight of the Bay to the coal quay; and a third to construct a tramroad on the Torbay Road; another proposed scheme was the extension of the Teign Valley by a junction with the Moreton branch at Newton, and to run on through St. Mary-Church, having a station at Ellacombe. The inhabitants have latterly opposed any extension to the harbour on the ground that it would be used mainly for conveying ores from the Teign Valley for shipment in the Torquay harbour. In June, 1866, an endeavour was made, it was supposed in the interest of the Teign Valley railway promoters, to get an extension to Torquay. At a meeting held on the 12th of June, Mr. W. Kitson moved, "That the station of the Dartmouth and Torbay railway being inconveniently distant from the town, it is desirable that the meeting appoint a committee to consider and report to a public meeting whether an extension of the railway to the town is desirable and practicable." This was negatived by an amendment proposed by Mr. R. Dymond, "That before passing an opinion on the question of extending the railway into the town, it is desirable that the promoters should lay before the inhabitants such a plan and explanatory statements as will enable the public to judge of the manner in which their interests are likely to be affected by the proposed works." As late as the 15th of November, 1871, a numerous meeting held in Torquay declared in favour of the extension of the railway to the harbour, and an equally numerous meeting, held on the 23rd of the same month, declared to the contrary. In 1876 the local lines were amalgamated with the Great Western, the Directors of

which in 1877 commenced the erection of a new railway station for Torquay.

The line was opened to Brixham Road in March, 1861. The Directors were received on the platform, and presented by a deputation from the inhabitants with the following address: "Gentlemen,—It is with unfeigned pleasure that in the name of the inhabitants of Brixham we congratulate you on the completion of the line of railway to this station, especially as we are informed that you have had to contend with considerable engineering difficulties. We could have wished that the line had been so laid out that we might have had the advantage of the station being nearer to the town of Brixham, and in such a position as ultimately to go on to Dartmouth as a continuous line, thereby securing to the direction the traffic between the two towns; and we consider that it would have been a very great advantage to connect the magnificent bay and harbour of Brixham with the beautiful land-locked harbour of Dartmouth, as we believe that both towns would have been considerably benefited by such a connection, and that it would prove a great source of traffic to your company. But as you have, no doubt after mature deliberation, diverged from such a course, having, as we are informed, been desirous of opening up a tract of country generally known by the name of the South Hams, we shall hope to participate in the advantages which will accrue from this communication through such a large district westward, and will endeavour to persuade our fellow-townsmen to aid in constructing a branch from this station to Brixham harbour." This having been disposed of, there was a general rush for the few vehicles in the yard; those who were not fortunate enough to secure a seat—and they were a large majority—were compelled to walk the two miles into Brixham. The fishing town was decked in holiday style, and the people were in the most gracious of moods. Of course there was the inevitable dinner, which took place at the London Inn, and a curious incident concerning it

deserves to be put on record: Paignton had rejoiced in its pudding; therefore, it was held, Brixham ought to glory in the prime commodity by which her people make their wealth. Accordingly it was agreed that there should be a fish dinner, price 13*s.* 6*d.* per head. Seeing that Brixham is proud of its fish trade, it was natural to suppose that there would be no difficulty in getting any quantity of the finny tribe on so auspicious an occasion as the opening of the railway. But the fates decreed otherwise; for days before the opening there had been heavy easterly gales, and the consequence was that no fish were caught. Here was a dreadful dilemma! Gentlemen were invited to Brixham to a fish dinner, and not a fish was to be had for love or money! At last, on the morning of the auspicious day, one of the perplexed promoters of the dinner bethought him that a week before a splendid turbot had been caught in Torbay, but it had been despatched to Bristol. Was it possible that the turbot had not been disposed of? The telegraph was set to work, and the reply came that the turbot was still unsold. The telegraph was again resorted to, and the result was that the fish arrived by mail train just in time to be cooked for dinner. The turbot had been kept in ice, and arrived in the nick of time to save the reputation of Brixham.

It was intended to have carried the Dartmouth line across the Dart, that the station might be in the town, bridging the river at a point near Greenaway. Owing, however, to the powerful opposition which was evoked by the proprietor, Mr. Harvey, it was reluctantly decided to carry on the line to Kingswear, whence the passengers would pass by steamer to Dartmouth on the other side of the river. The line to Kingswear was opened on the 10th of August, 1864.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-FIRST.

The Storm of 1859.—Casualties in the Harbour.—Destruction of the Torbay Road.—Remarkable Proof of the Violence of the Sea.—The Devastation.—Results of the Storm.—Livermead Wall washed away. Meadfoot Sea-wall Destroyed.—Establishment of a County Court.—The Prince of Wales's Marriage.—Great Festivities.—Prince Arthur in Torquay.—Loyal Addresses.—The Imperial Hotel.—A Catastrophe at the Pier Head.—The Prince of Wales at Meadfoot.—Fishing for Conger.—A Remarkable Catch.

ON the 25th of October, 1859, the whole of the western coast was visited by a storm unexampled in the memory of man for its extraordinary violence and the widespread destruction which it caused. Along the shores of Torbay the loss of property was enormous. The weather during the early part of the day had been very variable, the wind blowing in fitful squalls. At noon it settled steadily at the south-east, the only point of the compass to which the northern shores of the bay are exposed. Notwithstanding that it was but half-tide, the sea broke over the south pier of the Old Harbour. As far as the eye could reach, nothing could be seen but huge crested rollers nearly twenty feet high, advancing shoreward with a terrific roar. Ships and boats, although doubly secured, broke from their moorings, and collided with each other. One collier shifting out of her berth at the Coal Quay, drifted up towards the Bank, and as she went rising and falling with the swell, the stock of her anchor hitched in the iron railings in front of Vaughan Parade, and with every surge half a dozen of the palisades with coping and masonry were

wrenched away. As the tide rose the danger increased, for it unfortunately happened that the storm and the top of the highest spring tide for the month were concurrent. The water swept over the pier from one end to the other, at times entirely hiding it from view. Two large and ponderous wooden houses on the pier, used by the Steam Packet Company and the Coastguard, were carried away bodily—one being washed into the harbour. The pier itself was much damaged; pits were scooped out at several places, and the coping of the Quay and the flag-stones of the footpaths were torn up and transported some distance. Long before five o'clock, the hour of high tide, the water rose much above its ordinary level. Waves dashed across the Parades and Strand, inundating the shops. For safety the boats were hauled up on the footpaths; these formed a kind of barrier to the shops, but even then, however incredible it may seem, clouds of spray were flung over the housetops. The danger was rendered all the greater by floats of timber, which, having got adrift in the harbour, were coursing along the roadway. The carriage way in Abbey Place, Cary Parade, and the Torbay Road, was undiscernable; Cary Green was covered with seething waves. By wading through the water and keeping close to the houses, progress could be made a little beyond Sulyarde Terrace, but no further. The whole of the Torbay Road was under water—a faint line here and there between the advancing waves indicating where the parapet wall stood. From Rock Walk the scene was indescribable. The whole of Torbay was in a state of ebulition never witnessed before; the sea appeared to advance in a succession of huge rollers, each several hundred yards in length; and such was the mechanical force exerted by them that the very floor of the Bay seemed to be torn up. The water was deeply coloured red, with the soil held in solution. The alternately advancing and receding surges tore away blocks of masonry several tons in weight and flung them back again as if they had been mere pebbles. The Torbay

Road was breached in four places.* In the fury of the storm the sea dashed against the wall, and then shooting up in masses thirty feet high, fell into the meadows, which were soon filled with water; on the carriage road which crosses the meadow the water was six feet deep in many places; the waves advanced up to thirty-one paces of the gate which stood in a line with the Spanish Barn. In the meadow on the Cockington side of the road a temporary toll house was carried up nearly to the footpath leading to Chelston. What aggravated the mischief was the fact that in the shipwright's yard, inside Beacon Hill, where the new quay stores are now situated, there was a pile of balk timbers; these were swept away, and being carried across to the sands, came end on against the sea-wall like so many battering rams. Several of the balks were carried far up the meadows. To those who stood by the Spanish Barn it was a remarkable spectacle. Beneath the line of elm and ash trees which lined the road, the meadows were a sheet of seething water, which broke in wavelets at their feet; while beyond, columns of red-tinged water shot up along the whole line of the sea wall with a deafening noise. For hours the tide remained at an unusual height; it was not till eight o'clock that any sensible ebb was observed.

When morning broke a terrible scene of desolation met the eye. At the Baths the inner side of the breakwater, which extended from the southern angle of the building to the nearest of the Millstones, was swept away; a portion of the terrace was gone; while the swimming bath and dressing rooms were thoroughly gutted. In the Bathing Cove several bathing machines and boats were carried off and broken to pieces, and the beach was stripped of pebbles and sand. The building material of Mr. John Harvey in the shipbuilder's yard was almost wholly cleaned out. In the harbour the vessels appeared more like wrecks than anything else; spars and rigging had been damaged, and

* The restored portions of the wall being higher than the other parts, will indicate to the reader the actual places where the breaches were made.



Drawn on Stone by G. Bedford. Directory Co., Lith.

THE TORBAY ROAD THE MORNING AFTER THE STORM.

the bulwarks of most of them were smashed in. The Parades and Strand were encumbered with the boats which had been saved and the fragments of those that had been wrecked, and gangs of men were engaged removing the sand and stones with which the roads were covered. The Torbay road presented an extraordinary spectacle. The violence of the storm had done the work of destruction far more quickly and effectually than shot and shell. A short distance beyond Sulyarde Terrace, the wall and road close up to the hill side had disappeared for a length of about thirty yards. A little further on was another breach. Abbey Crescent fortunately escaped all injury beyond a slight drenching from the spray, for being situated in a recess, it was beyond the influence of the storm. Opposite the Belgrave Road was another breach a hundred and fifty feet in length. The massive blocks of red sandstone which formed the approach to the steps, although about seven tons in weight, had been carried across the road. In front of Torre Abbey was another enormous breach, where the damage was greater than at any other part, for the parapet wall in some places had been removed down to its foundation; a broad slipway to which carts gained access to the beach, shared the same fate. What remained of the road in the intermediate spaces was covered with sand, boulders, timber, and wreckage. At Livermead the wall and road were scooped away within a foot of the boundary wall of Livermead House, down to the level of the beach. The meadows for several hundred yards above the railway bridge were filled with sea-water, presenting the appearance of a lake. At Livermead Cottage the outer walls stood well, but some of the lower rooms were inundated.

Similar havoc was caused at Meadfoot. A good road had lately been made along the beach by Mr. Palk, M.P., and Mr. Dykes, as an approach to Kilmorie, situated at the Ilsham Valley. The road was utterly destroyed from one end to the other. The *Royal Charter* was lost the same night on the Welsh coast; two of the small band of sur-

vivors belonged to this place—Mr. Bowden, of St. Mary-Church, and Mr. King, a solicitor, who settled at Brixham. The damage to the Torbay Road was estimated at £6,000. By laying down a tramroad on Livermead Hill, sufficient material was brought down to temporarily restore the road at Livermead for traffic in the course of a week. But it was several months before the restoration was complete.

The town was supplied with gas from the new works at Hollacombe, in March, 1861. The history of the Company is a somewhat chequered one. As stated in a previous page the Company was formed in 1834. The works were erected at the head of the valley which is now known as the Public Gardens at Torwood, that site having been selected because it was far removed from any houses. In the course of a few years villas sprang up in the neighbourhood, and the works were removed to a quarry at the back of Temperance Street. Here, for a time, the wants of the town were successfully met, and the supply of St. Mary-Church was undertaken. But in a few years the constantly increasing growth of the town overtook the productive power of the works. Two rival companies were projected, the Torquay and St. Mary-Church Gas Company, which proposed to construct a manufactory for gas on Oddicombe beach, and the other the Torquay Gas Consumers' Company. Neither, however, came to any practical result. Unable to enlarge the existing works owing to the adjoining ground being built over, the Torquay Gas Company obtained enlarged powers and purchased land of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in the Manor of Preston, in the parish of Paignton. The foundation stone was laid on the 28th July, 1859. In 1862 and 1865 further Acts of Parliament were obtained, by which the Company was reconstructed. On both occasions opposition was raised by the Torquay Local Board of Health, which caused much embittered contention, the effects of which took years to remove. The cost to the parishioners alone was £500, without reckoning the Company's liabilities. One of the consequences of this contest

was the withdrawal of Mr. W. Kitson from the chairmanship of the Local Board of Health, and although he has been repeatedly invited to resume it he steadily refused. The inhabitants, however, entertained Mr. W. Kitson at a public banquet, and presented him with a splendid service of silver. Finding that it was impossible to supply St. Mary-Church in a satisfactory manner, some portions of that parish being five miles from the Company's works, it withdrew from supplying that place, and sold what plant belonged to it in St. Mary-Church to the Local Board, who from that time undertook the manufacture of gas and the lighting of the town. In 1872 the gas works were again enlarged. In accomplishing this undertaking a serious accident occurred on the 3rd of May. While laying in the foundation of a wall the adjacent bank of earth fell in and buried six of the workmen; they were all injured, but not fatally. The sum of £228 was subscribed in Torquay for the relief of the sufferers. In November, 1877, the Gas Company gave notice of its intention to apply to Parliament for further powers.

The death of the Prince Consort on the 15th December, 1861, was sincerely lamented by the inhabitants of Torquay. On the 28th of the month an influential meeting was held at the Town Hall, at which an address of condolence to Her Majesty was voted.

Torquay contributed liberally towards the relief of the Lancashire distress, caused by the war between the Northern and Southern States of America. Nearly a thousand pounds was raised; and among other gifts was a seasonable supply of fish; in November, 1862, there was an enormous take of sprats, of which thirty tons, of the value of £120, were sent off to Manchester as a contribution in kind. The railway companies conveyed the fish gratuitously; the gift was acknowledged as a welcome one.

For several years endeavours were made to secure a County Court for Torquay. Suitors and debtors, witnesses

and jurymen, felt it a hardship to be required to attend the Court at Newton, six miles away; and in the case of small debts, the distance and trouble in attending deterred many persons from availing themselves of this method of recovering their debts. In the latter part of 1862 the Lord Chancellor was again appealed to, and the appeal was supported in influential quarters. In January, 1863, the welcome intelligence was communicated that the request of the town had been granted; and on the 24th of April the first County Court was held in Torquay, the arrangement being for a Court to be held every alternate month.

Great rejoicings took place on the 10th of March, 1863, on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales. The town was profusely decorated, many of the streets being spanned with gracefully-designed arches of evergreens; two on the Strand were sufficiently wide on the top to accommodate parties of musicians. There was a grand procession of all the trades, which was ably designed and well carried out. Forming part of the procession were Lord Seymour's Light Horse, the Rifle Volunteers, the Artillery Volunteers, Sunday School children, Friendly Societies, and other bodies. In the Hotel square a congratulatory address to Her Majesty was read by Mr. March Phillipps from the balcony of the Royal Hotel; after which the children, numbering 3,052, sang a nuptial anthem. A public dinner was held in the Market House, which was visited by Miss Burdett Coutts and a number of ladies and gentlemen. Mr. Le Batt, of the Union Hotel, provided dinner for 3,500, and there was consumed 3,648 lbs. of meat, 3,648 lbs. of bread, and seven hogsheads of beer and cider. Following the dinner the women were entertained at tea, of which 1,800 pints were drank. Various public bodies dined together. At night there was a grand illumination; nearly every house was lit up—the exceptions were rare, and in out-of-the-way places. The Gas Company supplied the gas gratuitously. A novelty in illuminating was the simultaneous lighting up of the hills with

coloured fires, which produced a magnificent effect. There was also a display of fireworks on the Quay, and the Artillery made a huge bonfire on Corbon Head. Miss Burdett Coutts had her house illuminated with the magnesium light.

Prince Arthur visited Torquay on the 8th of May, 1863, in the steam yacht *Vivid*. His Royal Highness landed at Anstis Cove, whence, accompanied by the Rev. W. R. Jolley and Major Elphinstone, he walked round the hills and reached the top of Park Hill, behind the residence of the Hon. John Boyle, where one of the finest views of the town is obtained. Getting into a cab, the party drove to Waterloo Cottage, the residence of Mr. W. R. Jolley, sen.; here the Prince remained for nearly three hours, and partook of lunch. Afterwards His Royal Highness was driven in a carriage and pair round Torre Abbey, the Avenues, and other points of interest, and then, embarking at Torre Abbey Sands, dined on board the yacht at seven o'clock. The following day the *Vivid* cruised round Torbay, giving the youthful Prince an opportunity of enjoying the charming coast scenery. The Prince landed at Goodrington, where a carriage and pair was ready to convey him to Berry Pomeroy. Having explored this interesting ruin, the party went on to Berry Head and thence to Totnes, where they lunched and then proceeded in a boat down the Dart, joining the *Vivid* at Dartmouth.

The Princess of Wales gave birth to a son and heir on the 8th of January, 1864. A public meeting, presided over by Sir L. Palk, was held in Torquay, when the following congratulatory addresses were voted to Her Most Gracious Majesty and their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales:—

"We, your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, residing at Torquay, in the county of Devon, beg humbly to approach your Majesty on the occasion of the birth of a son and heir to their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, and we beg to offer your Majesty our sincere and

hearty congratulations on an event of such great importance to your Majesty and your Royal Family, and more especially to the nation at large. And we pray your Majesty to accept this our renewed assurance of our loyalty and attachment to your Majesty's Royal person and throne, with our earnest hope that this event may add to your Majesty's happiness and to the prosperity of the nation at large."

"We, the undersigned, residents and visitors at Torquay, beg to approach your Highnesses with sentiments of loyal congratulation on the auspicious birth of a son and heir, and we humbly pray that Divine Providence may watch over the infant Prince, and render him a source of happiness to your Royal Highnesses, and a bulwark of the throne and liberties of England."

The following were the replies :—

"Whitehall, January 21st, 1864.

"Sir,—I have had the honour to lay before the Queen the loyal and dutiful address of the inhabitants of Torquay on the occasion of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales having given birth to a Prince. And I have to inform you that Her Majesty was pleased to receive the address very graciously. "I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"To Sir L. Palk, Bart., M.P., Torquay. "G. GREY."

"Marlborough House, Pall Mall, S.W.,

"February 6th, 1864.

"Sir,—I have had the honour to lay before the Prince and Princess of Wales the address of the inhabitants and visitors of Torquay on the occasion of the safe delivery of Her Royal Highness of a Prince; and I am desired to convey their Royal Highnesses' very cordial thanks for their congratulations.

"I have the honour to be, your very obedient servant,

"To Sir L. Palk, Bart., M.P. "W. KNOLLYS."

The foundation stone of the Imperial Hotel was laid on the 28th of March by Lady Palk. This joint-stock com-

pany, limited, was formed in 1863, with a capital of £70,000, for the purpose of acquiring the Royal Hotel and stables, and to erect a larger hotel, better adapted for the requirements of visitors than any existing establishment. Two villas—The Cove, formerly the residence of Colonel Meyrick, and The Cliff, occupied by Lieutenant Walker—were purchased, and on the site was designed the splendid building which now forms so striking an object on the shores of Torbay. On the parchment enclosed in the stone was the following inscription:—

"The foundation stone of the Torquay Hotel Company was laid on Monday, the 28th of March, 1864, by Maria Harriet, wife of Sir Lawrence Vaughan Palk, Bart., M.P., of the county of Devon. Directors, Sir L. Palk, Bart., Chairman; Edw. Gulson, Deputy-Chairman; Lord Allan Spencer Churchill, C. G. Cholmondeley, Esq., Lawson Cape, Esq., W. F. Splatt, Esq., I. B. Toogood, Esq., W. Robertson, Esq., G. E. Wells, Esq., N. F. Uniacke, Esq., Sec. Architect, E. N. Clifton, Esq.; Solicitor, W. Toogood, Esq.; Contractor, Mr. Drake; Auditor, Mr. John Kitson."

The Hotel was opened in November, 1866. The building is in the Italian style of architecture, which harmonises with the rich scenery around. At the southern end are two square towers, with balustrades round the top, which produce a very pleasing effect. On the sea or south side the hotel appears to be one storey higher than at the back, owing to the natural slope of the ground on which it is built. In 1871 the hotel was considerably enlarged at the northern end. On the ground floor there is a fine arcade resting on ornamental pillars on arches with return ends. On the first floor is a massive Portland stone balcony, the whole extent of the sea front, and on the next floor there is a line of lead flats to every bay window, enclosed with balustrades.

A disastrous affair attended the visit of the iron-clad ship *Prince Consort*, which came into Torbay on the 30th of March. On the Sunday following, namely, the 3rd of April, a large number of the crew were allowed a few hours'

leave on shore, and they soon dispersed themselves over the town. Many, unfortunately, drank heavily at the public houses. At seven o'clock in the evening the men assembled on the pier head, where the ship's boats were waiting to receive them, and they got on board in good time. Soon afterwards, however, about a dozen stragglers found their way to the pier head and were anxious to rejoin their ship. Two fishermen, named Nosworthy and Hayman, procured a boat and undertook to put the men on board. Twelve sailors got into the frail craft; one of them named Winter was so drunk as to be unconscious, and was laid on the bottom-boards. The boat pushed off at half-past seven and had not gone more than a few yards when some of the men protested against going any further, as the sea was too rough, the wind blowing rather strongly from the south-west. Accordingly the boat's head was put about for the pier, when the stern, which was deeper in the water than the fore part, was exposed to the wash of the sea. As one or two of the waves came in over, some of the men made a movement forward, the result being that the boat was upset within a couple of yards of the pier head. Unfortunately the people by whom the pier had just been crowded were driven off by a shower; the cries of the drowning men, however, soon brought many of them back, when boats were put off and spars thrown over, but of the fourteen men which the boat contained, six were drowned.

The Prince of Wales steamed down to Torbay in the *Victoria and Albert* yacht on the 5th of August, 1864, intent on sea fishing. His Highness was accompanied by Prince Louis of Hesse. The yacht anchored off the Baths. Entering the barge, His Highness was rowed to the mouth of the harbour, and at that time there were very few persons either on the pier or the quay. Contrary to expectation, the barge did not approach the steps at the pier head, but made direct for the landing place, opposite the shop of Mr. Zelley, tailor. A tradesman named Henry

Wreyford, with all the gallantry of a Sir Walter Raleigh, rushed into the tailor's shop, and seizing on the first roll of cloth that was within reach, spread it over the steps to the private carriage which was waiting for His Highness—a mark of attention with which he appeared to be very much struck. The Princes drove to the residence of Her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Maria of Russia, and then made a tour of the town; but instead of embarking from the pier, where there were crowds of spectators and the Volunteers ready to do military honours, the party went on to Meadfoot beach, where a boat was waiting for them. Not to be disappointed, however, the Rifle Volunteers marched to Land's End and fired a *feu-de-joie*, while the Volunteer Artillery gave expression to their loyalty by firing salvoes from the battery on Corbon Head. On the following morning (Saturday) the *Victoria and Albert* got up steam and stood out as far as Berry Head, and then returned and anchored off Meadfoot, near the Great Rock. At the desire of the Prince, arrangements had been made for fishing the night before by the Harbour Master, Mr. R. J. Slade, who had laid down ground-lines for the purpose of taking conger. His Highness desired to enjoy the sport of mackerel fishing, but the season for that had passed by. At the hour appointed for hauling in the lines there was a flotilla of all kinds of boats in the neighbourhood of Meadfoot. The Prince was rowed up to the spot in a barge, accompanied by two gigs from the *Victoria and Albert*, and a third from which the proceedings were conducted by the Harbour Master. The water was very smooth and the fish could be seen long before they were drawn to the surface; one of them weighed thirty pounds. The sport was very much enjoyed. On Saturday the yacht proceeded to Dartmouth and anchored in the Range, while the Prince, in his gig, rowed round the *Britannia* and returned.

Dowager Queen Emma, of the Sandwich Islands, visited England in 1864, and on the 3rd of November arrived

at Torquay, on a visit to Miss Burdett Coutts, by whose liberality a bishopric had been founded at Honolulu. The Queen, accompanied by her secretary and other officers, attended a meeting held at the Bath Saloon in aid of the Honolulu Mission, and afterwards received a large number of ladies and gentlemen at dinner at the residence of Miss Burdett Coutts, Ehrenburg Hall.

Well-deserved honours were conferred by the inhabitants of Torquay in 1865 on Mr. H. C. March Phillipps, who for nearly thirty years had discharged the functions of magistrate; filled various public offices; organised the Volunteer movement in 1852, seven years before the principle of a Volunteer force was generally adopted by the Government, and supported it by several vigorously-written pamphlets; and skilfully arranged a scheme for raising a force of special constables for service in the event of disturbances. From his firmness of character and impartiality of judgment, he was generally called upon to act as chairman at important public meetings. On the 2nd of November, at a thoroughly representative meeting, a portrait of Mr. March Phillipps, painted by Mr. Sydney Hodges, was presented by Captain Phillpotts, on behalf of the subscribers, to the town. The event was commemorated by a public dinner, at which Mr. March Phillipps was the honoured guest. The portrait was placed over the seat of justice in the Town Hall. Having thus recorded the recognition by the town of Mr. Phillipps's public services, this will be an appropriate place for noticing a brave deed which strikingly illustrates his private virtues and his humane disposition. On the 12th of April, 1873, as Mr. Phillipps was passing along the road, in front of Sulyarde Terrace, he heard the cry of a child in distress. On looking over the wall he saw a little girl, about eight years of age, struggling in the water. The weather was cold, the wind was blowing fresh from the south-west, and the water was rough. Notwithstanding this, and although he was eighty-two years of age, Mr. Phillipps, divesting himself of coat and watch, plunged

into the sea. He swam out and was bringing the child to the quay when a young gentleman, Mr. Huntley Hooper, came to his aid, to whom he gave up the child, and gained the landing steps in an exhausted state. The circumstance having come to the knowledge of the Royal Humane Society, they determined upon presenting two bronze medals to Mr. March Phillipps and Mr. Huntley Hooper. The medals were sent to Torquay, and at an influential meeting held at the Town Hall on the 14th of June the same year, they were presented with much ceremony by Captain Phillpotts, on behalf of the Society. The medals bore an inscription that they were given "in recognition of the courage and humanity displayed" by the gentlemen whose names were duly recorded, "in saving the life of Ellen Couch, who fell into the sea, April 12th, 1873." The following year Mr. March Phillipps presented the town with a Venetian mast, which was erected on Cary Green, and the Local Board of Health directed a brass plate to be affixed to the stone-work of the platform, on which they recorded Mr. March Phillipps's humane act.

The new Post Office was opened in Torwood Road on the 1st of October, 1865. The first post office on the Strand appears to have been established as a sub-office to Brixham in 1796, for in the *Torquay Directory* of the date of January, 1846, occurs the following announcement: "Mr. S. Row, postmaster of Torquay, has resigned his office, after holding it for fifty years." The post office is described by those who remember it as having been "a small passage adjoining No. 6 Strand." Mr. Blewitt, detailing the postal arrangements in 1832, says: "The Exeter mail, with the Teignmouth, Exeter, London, foreign, and other letters, from parts east of the place, arrives at seven in the evening. These letters are delivered as soon after that hour as circumstances will permit. The mail leaves the Hotel every morning at half-past seven, arriving in Exeter about noon. The departure of the western post, with the Irish and Plymouth letters, is at six in the

evening, returning the following morning, when the delivery takes place about eight o'clock. London letters take twenty-three hours to their destination; Irish letters three days. The mail leaves Exeter for Torquay at three p.m." After the retirement of Mr. Row, the office was opened in Cary Parade by Mr. Ambrose Hall, who subsequently transferred it to Vane Hill, next to the Freemasons' Hall. At his death, Mr. Rogers, the postmaster, removed it to the Rotunda, and subsequenly to Victoria Parade and Park Street, while the new offices in Torwood Street were being erected. Mr. M'Cann is the present postmaster.

The annals of Torquay were in 1865 stained by a terrible crime, which gave rise to a feeling of horror throughout the kingdom. Charlotte Winsor was indicted at the Spring Assizes, along with Mary Jane Harris, for the murder of the child of the latter. The evidence was not conclusive, and the jury were, after five hours' deliberation, unable to agree to a verdict. It was Saturday night, and on Monday the Cornwall Assizes were fixed to commence. Accordingly, at five minutes before midnight, the Judge, Baron Channell, summoned the jury into court, and in the exercise of his discretion discharged them. In the summer following Winsor was put on her trial alone. Harris, without any formal verdict as to her guilt or innocence being taken, was admitted as Queen's evidence, and gave such an account of the whole dismal tragedy as to leave no doubt of Winsor's guilt. Harris, by her association with a farmer named Nickells, became a mother in 1858. In the course of 1864 she again met with Nickells, and in October gave birth to a second child at the house of a Mrs. Gibson. In December, Harris, who was in service, wished to get rid of the child as she could not keep it. She applied to Winsor, who was looked upon as a "wise woman," and had acquired a reputation for skill in helping young women out of their difficulties. In her lonely cottage, near the second bridge above the Torre railway station, many a little victim had been foully murdered. On the 12th of December Harris

took her child to this cottage, and Winsor related to her some of her previous exploits. To quote the evidence of the wretched young mother, "She said that she had put away one of a girl who was confined at her house. I asked her how she did it. She said she put her finger on the jugular vein. She also said she had stifled one three weeks old of another girl." "I'll put them all by for thee," she told Harris, "if thee hast forty." The dismal drama was soon played out. On the 9th of February Harris again went to the cottage. On her arrival she found her child tied to a chair, and Winsor's grandchild playing with it. The grandchild was sent to Torre on an errand, and then Winsor commenced her operations. This is the evidence of the mother: "She asked me if she should do it? I asked her how she could do it. She said, 'put it between the bed ticks.' I don't remember that she said any more; but she took the child into a little bedroom. I did not then go in, nor could I see what she did. She stayed there about ten minutes, and then came back into the room without the baby. She said, would I look in? and that it soon died! I looked in and saw the bed made up, but no child. I saw the child's body afterwards." This sealed the fate of Winsor, and she was sentenced by Mr. Justice Keating to be hanged. A celebrated legal personage, however, intimated a doubt as to the legality of the second trial, and the Secretary of State therefore postponed execution until the question of law could be settled by the proper tribunal. A writ of error was brought and decided against the convict by the Court of Queen's Bench. Her execution at Exeter was fixed for the 11th of February, 1866, and preparations had so far advanced that Calcraft had arrived, when the miserable woman was respited a second time. On the 11th of May Sir G. Grey, the Home Secretary, announced that he had determined, under all the circumstances of the case, to recommend that the capital sentence passed on Charlotte Winsor should be commuted to penal servitude for life.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-SECOND.

The Cyclone in Torbay.—Wreck of Fifty Vessels and the Loss of One Hundred Lives.—Heroism of the People of Brixham.—Ships Ground to Matchwood against the Pier.—The Shore Strewn with Wrecks. Gallant Deeds.—A Terrible Night.—Generous Hospitality.—Reckoning up the Losses.—Relief for the Widows and Orphans.—Rewards for the Brave.—Breakwater and Lifeboat.—Foundering of H.M.S. "Amazon."—Landing of the Crew in Torquay.—Their Hospitable Reception.



THE series of destructive gales which marked the latter end of the year 1865 culminated on the night of January 10th and morning of January 11th, 1866, in a disaster unprecedented in Torbay, for not less than fifty vessels were wrecked and nearly a hundred lives lost.

On the morning of Wednesday seventy-four vessels were at anchor, wind-bound, in Torbay; some were steamers, many were large ships, and the others were colliers, coasters, and foreign traders; several of these had reached far down the Cornish shore, but were driven back by the south-west gales. During the day the wind blew heavily from the south-west, accompanied by a snow storm. At nine o'clock at night the wind backed to the south, then suddenly to the south-south-east, and finally to the north-east, blowing with the violence of a hurricane. The vessels were literally caught in a trap; they were completely embayed. A few slipped their cables, clawed out of the Bay, and succeeded in weathering Berry Head. The rest dragged their anchors. All night long there was a scene of dire confusion. The inner harbour of Brixham was already

crowded with trawlers which had run in during the day, and there were about twenty at anchor in the outer harbour. As soon as the ships began to drive they found that their only chance was to make for Brixham harbour. To make matters worse it was a pitchy-black night, the rain fell in torrents, and the sea broke over the pier. A Brixham pilot would have hesitated to make the attempt; but it was a case of life and death to them, and so large and small ships were crowding in for the narrow entrance to the harbour. In order that the mariners might judge of their whereabouts, lanterns were held at the pier heads and a bonfire was made on the pier of the materials the most readily accessible, and to the honour of the people of Brixham many of those who lived close by the quay brought out their straw mattresses to keep the beacon fire ablaze. Only a few succeeded in gaining the refuge; among these were the *Tangerine* and *Florence Nightingale*. A ringing shout went up as they passed the heads. Through the blinding sleet two vessels in particular were seen driving on; they missed the entrance, and, going to leeward, were dashed against the pier wall itself. It was an exciting scene. As the tall spars of the ships hung over the parapet, the brave fishermen of Brixham sprang on the wall to rescue those who could drop from them. Still on they came, ship crashing into ship, until at length eight were inextricably commingled. The two large ships *Wild Rose* and *Hubert St. Leon*, in attempting to gain the harbour, had run down several trawlers, which were ground to pieces between them and the granite pier; so complete was their destruction that their remains could not be identified. The sea was covered with beams, planks, keelsons, stanchions, rigging, and sails, intermixed with barrels, casks of wine, boats, and bags of grain, spread broadcast. From these wrecks the crews were rescued by dint of the greatest hardihood and the most fearless bravery on the part of those on the pier. Notwithstanding the hurtling through the air of surging blocks and chains, and the imminent danger

they incurred from the falling spars, the fishermen threw ropes here, or hauled on a hawser there, to secure the wrecks; and, stretching forward into the gloom, dragged out many a poor fellow from the water; others were helped to crawl along the spars and rigging and were caught as they dropped on the pier. It was a work of great peril, for as the masts swayed to and fro, threatening to go by the board every moment, the sailors had to watch for a favourable moment to make the terrible leap. Some of the men were rescued by literally clutching at a fragment of their garments; others were hauled up by ropes which were thrown from the quay. A man named Mills drew fourteen men out of the water by his own unaided efforts.

This was but a small part of the mischief wrought by the disastrous cyclone. Some of the ships foundered in mid-bay. Three men of the *Cesarewitch* declared that they did not know how they were saved; all they knew was that they found themselves on board the *Jesse*, with which vessel she had probably collided. From Brixham to Goodrington the shore line was dotted with wrecks. At Broadsands nine ships were on shore. Two schooners were totally wrecked on the rocks on the north side of the Broadsands, and seven vessels were driven ashore together within a distance of five hundred yards. As these drove ashore, one of them, a barque, ran into a schooner, and both were sunk, their upper works only showing above water. The crews were rescued by the coastguard. Of these seven vessels, one was the *Fortitude* of Exeter, another the *Stately*, a large barque from the Danube, laden with corn, a French brigantine, and the *Dorset* of Falmouth. The *Stately* broke from her anchors at eleven p.m., and after vainly attempting to work out of the Bay, drove ashore shortly after one o'clock in the morning. Two of her crew got out the boat and endeavoured to land, but the boat was upset and they were left struggling in the water; fortunately this happened near the shore, and the coastguard saved them. The men still on board, fearing the ship would go to pieces, made at-

tempts to land; they threw out a spar with a rope attached to it in order to effect a communication with the beach. As this did not succeed, a Brixham man, Jeffery Searle, volunteered to swim out and bring the spar ashore, but a brave fellow named James Nicks, of Paignton, would not allow him, declaring that as he was the younger of the two he claimed the right to go off, and accordingly he plunged into the sea, and after a hard struggle with the surf brought it in, but was thoroughly exhausted with the effort. Of the nine ships at Broadsands five became total wrecks. At the southern extremity of Broadsands a Dutch galliott was on shore; the men were saved but the master was drowned in his cabin. In Churston Cove a large ship went to pieces, and all that remained of her was a floating mass of tangled and pounded fragments. Of her crew of ten men only four were saved; higher up the Cove was another vessel with only the loss of her rudder. Two ships were wrecked on the Brixham breakwater. Mr. Barter and his son rescued the crews of the *Scythian*, the *Honour*, and the *Thomas and Mary*.

All through that terrible night, when even many a household had to mourn the loss of one of its members, the people of Brixham acted with the noblest generosity. Private dwellings were converted into temporary refuges and refreshment houses; and at the Assembly Room eighty-five seamen were accommodated; the floor was covered with straw, and on this the poor fellows laid down in rows. At Elbury Farm Mr. Tully had the care of thirty sailors. Mrs. Sheppard, at Brixham quay, the owner of one of the wrecked trawlers, kept open house all night, providing tea and coffee to the half-drowned men as they were brought on shore; Mrs. Upham also distinguished herself in a similar way. Miss Browse, the local hon. secretary of the National Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, quickly exhausted the few resources she had, but she issued orders for providing accommodation, provisions, and railway fares, when the men were able to leave, and although the expenses

amounted in the aggregate to several hundred pounds, the parent Society honourably discharged them all. The value of such a Society was never more clearly established. Whenever a sailor is cast ashore, the nearest agent of the Society will provide for his immediate wants, and furnish him with sufficient money to pay his fare to the place he wishes to reach.

As late as two o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday the coastguard were taking men off the wrecks at Goodrington by means of the mortar apparatus. As soon as the nature of the disaster became known, the Teignmouth life-boat was sent for, but the sea on the bar ran so terrifically high that she could not be launched, accordingly she was placed on the transporting carriage and drawn by horses to Torquay, and launched from the slipway opposite the Bank. That, however, was not until one o'clock in the afternoon, when all actual danger had passed away.

On Saturday, the 13th, a committee of local gentlemen met at Brixham to enquire into the losses occasioned by the gale. Captain Milton, R.N., of the coastguard, said he had counted thirty-five vessels stranded between Warren Point and the Brixham Breakwater, and he expressed his firm conviction that many vessels had sunk at their anchors. Jean Mevard, a Frenchman, stated that there were from sixty to eighty vessels in the Bay on the night of the gale. Two French barques were lying near him, but he had not seen them since the gale; he believed they had sunk. John May, of the *Zoe*, said he saw a French brig founder during the night. Two steamers collided and went down. The committee came to the conclusion that, owing to the extraordinary character of the gale at such a time of the night, if a life-boat had been in the Bay she could not have saved many lives. The loss of life was estimated at seventy-seven, and the value of the property destroyed at £200,000. Out of the whole fleet about fifty of the vessels were wrecked. A few managed to ride out the gale, but two or three had to cut away their masts to secure safety. During

the night the wind might be said to have blown from all points of the compass, and so rapidly did these variations occur, that seamanship, however skilful, was powerless to guard against them.

The news of this terrible disaster caused a profound impression, and meetings for the relief of the widows and orphans were held. Here in Torquay the subject was warmly taken up, and £1,377 was subscribed to the fund. The relief committee dealt with the external claims before they took up a single local case; one hundred and fifty men were relieved, at a cost of £650. The widows and orphans were sought out and gratuities were given to each. Later in the year rewards were given to the men who had signalised themselves by deeds of heroism during this great gale. Christopher Bartlett—who was on the pier when the first vessel came on shore, was also instrumental in saving the lives of the crew of the *Cambria*, and who, later in the morning, when still dark, was lowered over the cliff at Open Cove by a rope, when it was uncertain whether there was any footing below, and when from the intensity of the gale and the beating of the sleet it was difficult to stand on the brink of the precipice, and by whose aid from thirty to forty men were rescued—received a suitable reward, as did also Mary Putt, a little girl who held the lantern over the edge of the cliff; Mrs. Mary Sheppard, Mrs. Ellen Upham, Mr. Gasking, Mr. Jeffery Saunders, and many others. On June the 23rd the Board of Trade granted four bronze medals to Christopher Bartlett, Ezekiah Curtis, Edwin Barter, and C. W. Wyatt.

Soon after the gale a public meeting was held in Torquay, at which petitions to the Board of Trade were adopted, praying for the construction of a breakwater in Torbay. Admiral Sheringham, of the Admiralty Hydrographical Department, residing at Paignton, expressed his belief that a breakwater 9,000 feet long might be constructed in from five to six years for £700,000. The Board of Trade replied that they had no money at their disposal

for such a purpose. Sir L. Palk also brought the subject of providing a harbour of refuge in Torbay before the House of Commons, but with no practical result. All through the summer divers were employed on the wrecks, and a large amount of property was recovered. The citizens of Exeter, touched by the harrowing results of the storm, provided the money for a life-boat at Torbay, which it was arranged should be launched in the autumn, but owing to the presence of cholera at Brixham it was put off. The committee, acting upon the advice of nautical men, resolved to station the boat at Brixham instead of the Torquay side, as it was more likely to be of service there. On the 10th of November the boat was launched amid great rejoicings, which were a little tempered by heavy rains. A dinner followed, which was attended by the Mayor of Exeter and a number of the citizens.

During the year another remarkable casualty occurred, not far distant from Torbay. On the afternoon of the 10th of July the coastguard on duty, and persons on the Torquay pier, were surprised to notice the approach of five boats, evidently belonging to a sea-going ship, and so heavily laden with men as to have their gunwales within two or three inches of the water. As they approached nearer they were, by means of a glass, made out to be seamen and marines. Very soon the boats rounded the pier head, and with thankful hearts the men stepped ashore. They comprised the crew of H.M. steam-ship *Amazon* and the survivors of the steamer *Osprey*, which had that morning been in collision, both vessels sinking. The *Amazon*, Capt. James Hunter, a new vessel just taken out of dock, and which left Portsmouth on Monday afternoon, the 9th, bound for the West Indies, came into collision half-an-hour after midnight with the *Osprey*, Bartridge, master, from Liverpool to Antwerp, about twenty miles off Torbay. The *Osprey* was struck amidships and went down in three minutes; the bows of the *Amazon* were stove in and she began rapidly to fill; her boats were immediately hoisted out and sent to

rescue the *Osprey's* crew, who were picked up, but so rapidly did she sink that, melancholy to relate, ten or eleven persons went down with her; among these were three or four ladies and six children. The officers of the *Amazon* declared that these might have been saved had not the crew of the *Osprey* been so eager to save their baggage. The master's wife was put into one of the boats in her night-dress. Finding that nothing could save the *Amazon*, the men were told off to the various boats, the utmost order and discipline being maintained to the last, and they escaped with only what they stood upright in. The officers and crew of the *Amazon* were 152, and the supernumeraries she had on board, with the survivors of the *Osprey*, raised the total to 170. These were crowded into the boats like herrings; there were two cutters, two gigs, and a dingy; one of the cutters held sixty, the captain's gig twenty-seven, and the dingy twelve; many of the men were nearly naked, and were sheltered with flags and blankets, and some were wounded. Providentially, a dead calm prevailed, and to this the safety of the party was entirely due; the nearest land was Torbay, twenty miles distant, and for this they made, being occasionally baffled by the fog, and about four o'clock reached Torquay. As soon as they landed, the Victoria Club and Racket Court were at once given up to them by Mr. W. Hearder, who, with Mr. R. J. Slade, Mr. Uniacke, and others, obtained for them an abundance of refreshments. Some of the officers went to the Club in Beacon Terrace, while others preferred the Queen's Hotel. In this way the shipwrecked mariners were refreshed and were enabled to leave by an evening train for Portsmouth.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-THIRD.

Street Improvements.—Various Schemes for Removing Saxon and George Streets.—Final Adoption of a Plan to Build a New Street.—Demolishing the London Inn.—The New Houses.—The Bill of Expenses.—Improving Tavistock Street.—Widening the Strand.—Carey Street.—Street Improvements at Times, &c.



EVERY rapid and progressive strides in street improvements were made in the years 1865-6-7-8, and, perhaps, the most important of all was the widening of Fleet Street. It would be difficult for a stranger to realise what the street was like twenty years ago. The width of the road between the West of England Bank and the London Inn (now demolished on the other side was but twenty-five feet; and at the upper end, between the angle of Mr. Prowse's property and the Horticultural depôt, was only twenty-three feet, including footpaths. From one end to the other the road varied in width and form. From the London Inn to a point opposite the entrance to Lower Terrace was a row of shops and houses constructed mainly of lath and plaster, while opposite stood a high garden wall, covered with posters, on the ground now taken up by Mr. Ardley's shop. Beyond, to the opening leading into George Street and Swan Street by the foundry, was a narrow strip of ground, eight feet wide, which once formed the bed of the leat, as explained in a previous chapter; and from this opening to the other end was a row of small two-storey double houses, with gardens in front, which could only be reached by going down several steps; while along the boundary wall, close to the path, was a line of fine poplar trees. In these houses

and also in George Street the superior officers of the fleet during the French war were content to lodge. The second building in this row was the Wesleyan Chapel, built in 1807. The line of houses was terminated by a brewer's yard, cow-houses, and pig-styes; a few open stalls for the sale of fruit; and at the extreme end the dilapidated remains of an old cottage, which seemed to be the legitimate resting place of vagrant umbrella menders, from the fact that the ribs of an umbrella were generally exposed over the ricketty steps that led to the entrance. A more discreditable state of things could not exist. The question of making a new street from the Town Hall to the sea was agitated soon after the adoption of the Public Health Act. At the Local Government enquiry held on the 24th of March, 1864, it was represented that there had been much discussion, not as to the improvement itself, but as to the best way of doing it. There were at first two plans proposed—one for continuing the old line of Fleet Street, and known as the higher plan; the second was through George Street, coming out at Abbey Place. By the former the whole of two blocks of houses would be swept away, and enable the Board to unite Fleet Street with George Street. This plan the ratepayers adopted. The Board, it was said, wished not only to widen the thoroughfare, but to get rid of what they considered a great nuisance, a number of open spaces between Fleet Street and George Street, which were used for many objectionable purposes. They also wished to remove the block of houses in George Street, and cause the new houses to be brought out with a more presentable frontage. For this purpose the Board sought power to stop up George Street; application was made to the magistrates to close the road, but they were unable to make the order as the case for the Board was incomplete. Notwithstanding the advice of many eminent authorities, Fleet Street was made forty-five feet wide instead of sixty, as was originally proposed. In arranging for the upper block the Board met with little difficulty; Mr. Prowse's

premises, which he had lately built, were taken down and replaced by shops of greater pretensions, and Messrs. Stark commenced a splendid pile of buildings at the other end of the block, and in a short time that part of the new street was completed: this portion of the work was begun in 1864. It was believed that if all the houses were completed in the same manner as these, the street would not be equalled by any in the West of England. The houses have five storeys. The height from the pavement to the top of the cornice is forty-five feet, being the width of the road, and the height from basement to ridge-roof is sixty-five: the basement and shop storeys are built of dressed limestone, those above being built of hollow brick, in order to save the space usually lost by thick masonry and battening. The windows of the shops are arched, the aim of the architect being to avoid the anomalous appearance presented by most other shops, of the houses standing on the edge of plate glass, and in this he has succeeded. The windows of the shops are defended by iron tracery of wrought foliage to capitals of columns. The show rooms have polished granite columns, with carved Portland stone capitals. The buildings are crowned by a high pitched hard roof, with an ornamental iron cresting. Months were spent in negociations for acquiring the ground for the lower block. At length, on the 14th of August, the terms were agreed to. On the 29th of August the material of the shops, houses, and London Inn, were sold by auction: and it was determined that the demolition of the buildings should be marked by some demonstration. Accordingly, on the same day as the sale all the Local Board workmen, the members of the Board, with Mr. Sheppard, the Chairman, at their head, together with a host of onlookers, marched to the front door of the old London Inn. Standing on the upper step, the Chairman made a brief address, expressing his satisfaction at seeing the day arrive when the work of improving Fleet Street could be commenced; then, with the assistance of Mr. W. Harvey, the upper step of the door-

way of the hostelry was removed, amid the cheers of the crowd. The Chairman gave a dinner to over two hundred persons the same evening at the Union Hall, in honour of the event. Unfortunately, to this day, the improvement has not been completed, owing to the want of agreement between the owner of Torre Abbey and his tenants. The bill of expenses for this work was as follows: To lease owners, £14,976 19*s.* 10*d.*; tenants, £609; garden and land owners, £270 4*s.* 2*d.*; ditto tenants, £32 10*s.*; law charges, £182 16*s.* 3*d.*; bills and incidentals, £109 15*s.* 6*d.*; labour, £70 11*s.* 5*d.*; Prowse's award, £5,931; total, £22,150 7*s.* 2*d.* Sir L. Palk gave to the town his right to the ground of the leat.

Torwood Street, at its junction with the Babbacombe Road and Park Crescent, was twenty-six feet wide, and as accidents were of frequent occurrence there, the Local Board of Health were petitioned on the 6th of March, 1864, to widen it by purchasing the end house of the Crescent and the frontage of the old market, so as to make Torwood Street correspond with the avenues leading to the Public Gardens. In July arrangements were made for the purchase of Mr. Jacob Harvey's property, and in 1866 this desirable improvement was completed at a cost of £3,000, the road being widened to fifty-five feet.

The Strand, like many of the thoroughfares, was found too circumscribed for the increasing numbers who used it, and in January, 1866, the Surveyor prepared plans for widening it from fifty-two to one hundred and ten feet, at a cost of £3,500. This was under consideration for some months, negociations being entered into to ascertain on what terms a portion of the harbour could be obtained from Sir L. Palk. A few years previously the hon. baronet had himself suggested the filling up the inner part of the harbour. The authorities were gratified to learn in the following May, from Mr. Kitson, that Sir L. Palk was prepared to give whatever ground was necessary, and at the same time

expressed his willingness to co-operate with them in whatever was calculated to benefit the town. At their July meeting the Board agreed that, "Sir L. Palk having generously consented to give up the necessary ground for widening the Strand, as shewn in the plans sanctioned by the Board of Trade, resolved that in the opinion of this Board it is desirable to carry out the proposed improvement forthwith, and that a meeting of the ratepayers be convened as soon as convenient." The parishioners sanctioned the proposal, the estimated cost being £3,500, and a Provisional Order having been obtained, the work was proceeded with.

Improvements in other parts of the town followed in quick succession—the widening of the road from Torre Square to Brunswick Place from thirteen to thirty feet, the alterations in South Street, and the purchase of Mr. Cary's interest in Cary Green, after a protracted negociation. Cary Green cost the town, including all expenses, about £5,000.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-FOURTH.

Political Matters.—Proposal to make Torquay a Borough.—The Contested Election for East Devon.—Abolition of the Easter Fair.—Laying the Foundation Stone of the New Harbour.—Various Harbour Schemes.—Opposition to Building in the Harbour.—Necessity for a New Harbour.—A Fleet of Yachts Blown Off.—Description of the Works.—Opening of the Harbour.—The Celebration.

NEW Year's Day of 1867 was marked in Torquay by a demonstration among the working classes in favour of reform. A procession of over a thousand men marched to Ellacombe Green, where resolutions were passed calling upon Parliament to extend the franchise. Up to the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832 there were only two electors in the parish, and these were the owners of the manors of Torwood and Torre Abbey. By this Act hundreds of leaseholders in Torquay were enfranchised. The division of South Devon in which Torquay was then included, had always returned Conservative members, but the alteration in the electoral laws encouraged the Liberals to believe that they might secure one seat; they succeeded beyond their expectations, for at the first election under the Reform Act of 1832* they returned two Liberal members—Lord John Russell and Mr. John Crocker Bulteel. Sir John Buller was the defeated

* In 1832 Mr. Gladstone and several members of his family, including Mr. W. E. Gladstone, resided at Rock House. Early one morning the latter gentleman was called away suddenly, having been put forward as a candidate for Newark. In 1837 Captain Gladstone, R.N., came forward as a candidate for Dartmouth, but retired before the election took place, as he found it would be difficult to wrest the seat from the late Sir J. H. Seale, Bart. Captain Gladstone was accompanied by his brother, Mr. Robertson Gladstone, and both were rather roughly treated.

Conservative candidate. In January, 1835, Mr. Bulteel retired to save Lord John Russell's seat. In May Lord John came down for re-election in consequence of having been appointed Home Secretary, but he was defeated by the Conservative candidate, Mr. Parker, uncle of the Earl of Morley. The contest was a severe one, and there are many persons now living who remember the party processions which marched through Torquay, and the address delivered by Lord John Russell from the balcony of the Royal Hotel. Mr. Bulteel was the last Liberal elected for South Devon. In 1837 there was an ineffectual attempt to re-seat him, but there has been no contest for the seat since, except by Lord Amberley in 1868, who failed to secure election. Mr. L. Palk (now Sir Lawrence) was returned in 1854 for South Devon; Sir Stafford Northcote opposed, but declined to go to the poll. Sir L. Palk represented South Devon uninterruptedly in successive Parliaments until 1868, when the county was divided into three divisions, and he was elected as one of the members for East Devon. In the new Reform Bill brought in in 1867, it was proposed to give a seat to Torquay. The proposal was received with mingled feelings of gratification and regret; the former, because it was believed by the Liberal party that they were strong enough to return one of their own political views, and thus be able to some extent to counteract the preponderating weight of the Conservatives in this part of the county; the latter, because persons on either side were afraid that periodical political contests would do the town more harm than good. When the Bill was debated in the House of Commons in the month of March, Mr. Butler-Johnstone derided the notion of Torquay having a seat, and naively asked what interest Torquay would represent; whereupon a wag instantly retorted, "the pulmonary interest!" As the Bill advanced, the promise held out to Torquay was withdrawn, and the seat was given to another town. The Reform Act brought about very material changes, which considerably altered the state of parties in the town.

The lowering of the franchise and the creation of the new division of East Devon, with which Torquay was incorporated, were deemed sufficient reasons to warrant the Liberals in testing their own strength and that of their political opponents. Accordingly, at the general election in November, 1868, when Lord Courtenay and Sir L. Palk were nominated by the Conservatives for the two seats, the Liberals put forward Mr. Wade. The result of the polling over the entire division was as follows: Lord Courtenay, 4,108; Sir L. Palk, 4,036; Mr. Wade, 3,458. Sir L. Palk has continued to represent the Eastern Division ever since.

One of the local customs which associated the past with the present was unceremoniously abolished in 1867, simply by the policeman's talismanic formula, "Move on!" From time immemorial a fair was held at Torquay on Easter Monday, and at Torre on the day following. Whether the fair was ever granted by charter, or whether it was in any way connected with the Abbey—most probably the latter—there is no evidence to show; but the custom was perpetuated year by year without questioning. During Easter Monday Lower Union Street was obstructed by stalls, and swing-boats were in great request in the opening by the little Independent Chapel, now St. George's Hall. On Tuesday Torre Square and East Street, as far as the four cross-roads, were blocked up with swing-boats, caravans, shows, and sweet-stalls. At Torre the young fellows elected one of their order as Lord Mayor, and chaired him through the town, levying contributions at every public house, after which they visited Torre Abbey, where they never failed to receive a hospitable reception. The day's perambulation invariably concluded by depositing the civic dignitary in the horse-pond at the bottom of the Avenues. At length the disorders to which the fair gave rise compelled the Local Board of Health to take decisive measures, and they accordingly directed the police to prevent the thoroughfares from being obstructed. So, when the purveyors of Easter amusements

were disputing among themselves as to the eligibility of various sites, they were told to "Move on!" An animated linguistic protest, more emphatic than polite, towards the governing body ensued, but the police were inexorable, and so the fairs were extinguished.

The most notable events of 1867 were the laying the foundation stone of the new harbour, and the gift by Sir L. Palk and Mr. L. H. Palk of Ellacombe Green to the town as a recreation ground, both of which occurred on the 6th of September, when Mr. Palk attained his majority. In the forenoon a large party of ladies and gentlemen met in the shipwright's yard, beneath Beacon Terrace, and after wending a devious path amid piles of timber, blocks of hewn stone, and machinery at work, they reached a spot near the base of the projected pier. At this spot the stone was gracefully laid by the hon. baronet's eldest daughter, Miss Palk, after which the party adjourned to one of the sheds at hand, and drank success to the undertaking. In the afternoon the members of the Local Board of Health met Sir Lawrence and Mr. Palk and their friends at Ellacombe Green, where Sir L. Palk formally transferred the land to the town as a free gift. Two trees* were planted in commemoration of the event, one by Sir Lawrence and the other by Dr. Nankivell, the representative of the Chairman of the Board (Mr. Sheppard), who was prevented by illness from attending the ceremony. The proceedings were witnessed by several thousands of spectators. At four o'clock the hon. baronet and Mr. Palk and friends were entertained by the inhabitants of Torquay at a banquet in the Bath Saloon. To Mr. Palk was presented a splendid silver epergne, together with a congratulatory address. The epergne consisted of an elegantly-designed pedestal, from which rose three female figures, supporting a hollow-worked silver basket, containing a glass bowl. It cost 160 guineas. The inscription ran: "Presented by the

* The trees were maliciously destroyed a few weeks afterwards.

inhabitants of Torquay at a public banquet to Lawrence Hesketh Palk, Esq., on attaining his majority, 6th September, 1867."

In giving an account of the harbour, a few words by way of preface may be permitted. For very many years it was found that the Strand was not wide enough for the stream of carriages which almost blocked it up in the season; the harbour was neither commodious enough nor sufficiently accessible for vessels; and for yachts there was no accommodation whatever. In the month of August, 1860, a proposal was put forward in the *Torquay Directory* for building a new pier or breakwater, for enclosing a portion of the harbour, and forming a Winter Garden on the space reclaimed. The public, however, disliked the notion of a building in front of the Strand; if a Winter Garden were allowed it might soon be converted into a railway station. Such was the argument of the objectors. Two years elapsed, and Sir L. Palk, on the 7th of November, 1862, submitted a proposal to the Torquay Local Board of Health. He suggested that a road should be carried across the harbour from the bottom of Vaughan Parade to the Maritime Inn on Victoria Parade; the inner part of the harbour to be filled and divided into two strips, that nearest the Strand to be planted as a garden, while the other part was not appropriated. It happened, however, that in one of the plans this unappropriated strip of ground was marked "for building." It was also designed to carry a pier or embankment from the north quay in the direction of Livermead about 200 feet, then turning towards Elbury Cove, to extend 800 feet, with 250 more extending in a south-easterly direction; the entrance to the harbour being covered by an arm 250 feet long, running from the inner side of the Baths; the area of the projected harbour was estimated to be ten acres. Several public meetings were held, and the only objectionable part of the scheme was held to be the strip for building purposes. It was considered that if a new line of buildings were to be

raised lower down the harbour, the Strand would become nothing more than a back lane. This was virtually abandoned, and as stated in a former page, Sir L. Palk gave up sixty feet of the harbour to widen the Strand. In May, 1864, there was a Bill before Parliament to confirm certain Provisional Orders made by the Board of Trade under the General Pier and Harbour Act of 1861; among the orders so issued was one for the improvement, maintenance, and regulation of the harbour of Torquay. It set forth that by an Act of the 43rd of the reign of King George III., Sir L. V. Palk and his heirs and assigns were authorised to repair, enlarge, and rebuild the pier at Torquay, which the late baronet carried out accordingly. Under the General Act of 1861 the present Sir L. Palk applied to the Board of Trade for a Provisional Order to authorise him to make and maintain additional piers, wharfs, and other works, at an estimated expenditure of £51,000. The contemplated works comprised a breakwater, to be constructed of limestone, commencing at a point known as Land's End or Peak of Torre, and extending in a westerly direction 700 feet or thereabouts; an extension of the breakwater to the outer Millstone, such extension to be 140 feet in length; and a wharf extending from the inner or northern end of the breakwater to the inner or eastern end of the proposed pier. The Board of Trade granted the order. This was a comprehensive and well-devised scheme, but it was never carried out. In 1866 another Provisional Order was obtained for a much smaller undertaking, and under which the present outer harbour has been built. Additional facilities were much needed; vessels were obliged to wait for the tide in order to enter or leave the harbour, and there was always a difficulty in landing passengers from steamers, unless near the time of high water. Good anchorage and shelter from the easterly gales were also requisite; for the insecurity of the harbour prevented steamers and traders frequenting it. A remarkable illustration of this was afforded in August, 1864. The Royal Victoria Yacht Club,

in arranging for one of their Channel matches, fixed upon Torquay as the goal, and matters were so ordered that the Torbay Royal Regatta was to follow the day after. The racing craft, with a fleet of others, had a pleasant run down Channel. More than a hundred were anchored off the town that evening, and as night fell and each vessel shewed its anchor and mast-head lights, the scene was strikingly fine. Everything gave promise for a splendid regatta on the morrow. The morning broke, and alas! what a sight! A gale of wind from the eastward had sprung up, the sea was very wild, and there being no sheltered anchorage the yachts were obliged to slip their cables and run for Dartmouth. Only half-a-dozen yachts remained plunging heavily at their anchors, with topmasts struck and storm sails ready for hoisting. Since the construction of the new harbour no such casualty has again occurred. The works were commenced in 1867. It has been stated in a former page that the face of Beacon Hill was cut away to make room for the Baths; the remainder of the hill was now razed to the level of the sea for the double purpose of building the large Saloon and the extensive range of stores on the quay, and to provide material with which to construct the quays. The base line of the foundation of the pier, that is to say, its width from the inner wall to the outer side is one hundred and seventy feet, and its thickness at the top is forty-one feet. A strong parapet, eight feet wide, runs the whole length of the pier, with a raised promenade inside. The method of constructing the quay was first to drive piles into the sea bottom and then to erect strong staging thereon, on which lines of rails were laid and lengthened as the work progressed. The foundation consists of blocks of concrete, formed of Portland cement, sand, and broken stone; some of these blocks were ten and thirteen feet long, four in height, and the same in width, the weight of the largest being about twenty tons. These blocks were hoisted on to a traveller, conveyed to the point required, lowered into the sea, and fitted into the places

designed for them by divers. Seventy-five of such blocks were required to make twenty feet of the pier. The whole of the works cost little short of £70,000. The engineer was Mr. Margary, the architect Mr. J. W. Rowell, and the builder Mr. James Mounstephen. The harbour was completed in August, 1870, and its formal opening synchronized with the Torbay Royal Regatta, held on Friday, Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 19th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, and 25th of August. Sir L. Palk offered a hundred guinea cup for a Channel race from Cowes to Torquay, and the Yacht Clubs offered similar prizes; the result was that there was a magnificent muster of yachts in Torbay. On the 20th Sir L. Palk formally declared the harbour to be open. The townspeople gave a grand dinner in the large Saloon, to which all the yacht owners were invited, and upwards of four hundred and fifty gentlemen dined together. The importance of the harbour has been abundantly proved of late years, for through it Torbay has become a favourite yachting station, and is much frequented during the summer. The construction of such extensive works was looked upon as the opening up of a new era in the history of the town, and the inhabitants were deeply sensible of the benefits which the promoter had conferred upon them. Accordingly, at the banquet above referred to, it was determined that some public recognition should be made of the importance they attached to it, and their appreciation of his efforts to advance the welfare of Torquay. There was a general concurrence of opinion that the best form this acknowledgment could take and which at the same time would be the most gratifying to the feelings of the recipient would be a presentation portrait. Mr. Sydney Hodges was the artist employed; and on the 24th of August, 1871, Sir L. Palk and several members of his family were invited to a banquet at the Bath Saloon, when the presentation was made in due form, on behalf of the town, by one of the oldest tenants and largest owners of property on the estate,

Mr. William Harvey. In transferring the portrait to the possession of Sir Lawrence, he said, "With this picture I am desired to convey to you our best wishes and thanks for the enterprise and public spirit which you have shewn in developing the resources of the town by the erection of the harbour; and it is gratifying to know that in doing what you have, you have not looked so much for an immediate return as to the benefit it will confer on the town at large."*

The portrait, which is full length and admirably executed, is placed in the Bath Saloon.

* The inner harbour has an area of six acres, the outer ten; the former is dry at low water; in the latter vessels can enter at all times of the tide, for there is a depth of seventeen feet at the pier head at low water and thirty feet at high water.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-FIFTH.

Another Bread Riot.—Reading the Riot Act.—Attempt to Cut the Gas Main.—Precautions against Fenian Agitators.—Extinguishing the Duchy Dues.—Death of Bishop Phillpotts.—The Emperor Napoleon in Torquay.—The Emperor and Sir L. Palk.—The Boating Club.—The Departure of the Emperor.—Nana Sahib's Overtures.—Separating from the Newton Union.—Purchasing the Gas Works.—Sewerage Schemes, &c.

A repetition of the bread riots of 1848 occurred on the 5th of November, 1867. An anonymous letter sent to one of the magistrates caused him to consult his colleagues and to provide for the protection of the town. One hundred special constables assembled at the Town Hall at eight o'clock; these were divided into detachments of thirty each, under the command of a leader and two subalterns, the whole being subject to the orders of the senior magistrate, Mr. March Phillipps. No attempt was made to interfere with the men rolling tar barrels about the streets, so, emboldened by the passive action of the authorities, the mob set on some boys to attack the shop of a baker named Shinner, in Lower Union Street; in a few minutes the shutters and glass were smashed, and the contents of the shop thrown into the street. The constables occupied the street from the Town Hall to the Market Cross, drawn across in two divisions, a similar number being kept in reserve. Much brutality was exhibited by the mob, the women bringing supplies of heavy stones from Ellacombe; these were aimed at the constables, and many were severely wounded. Mr. March Phillipps was struck by a stone

with such violence that one side of his face was greatly disfigured; the special constables, however, stood their ground. The mob made an attempt to stop up the street, but the constables cleaved their way through, and then forming a line across the street prevented persons from passing beyond; the rioters were thus divided into two bodies, one above and the other below the line of constables, who had great difficulty in keeping order, as they were repeatedly charged by the mob. The Riot Act was read at nine o'clock, and the people were enjoined to retire —advice which was received with derisive shouts and another attempt to force the line of specials. By occasionally wheeling round, some of the mob were seized and sent to the Town Hall, but not without desperate attempts at rescue. The shops and upper windows of Mr. Lambshead, butcher, and Mr. Charley, baker, were destroyed by stone throwing. The shop of Mr. Churchward, butcher, had no shutters, but was protected by iron guards; attempts to force this were futile, but the upper windows were smashed. At midnight the riot was at its height, and several shops were entered and robbed. A party of the rioters set off for Torre, and wrought much mischief among the bakers, Messrs. Wing, Easterbrook, Mugford, and Evans, being among the sufferers; and another party reached the Strand, and attacked the shop of Hatcher and others. A diabolical attempt to plunge the town in darkness during the night was discovered just in time to avert what would no doubt have resulted in a serious calamity. A labourer named Chudleigh, with others, proceeded to Livermead, and there opened the road with the deliberate intention of severing the gas main. He was arrested, and the people at the gas works kept watch and ward over the threatened danger. It was not till five in the morning that the disturbance was entirely quelled, and for some nights afterwards the special constables were held in readiness for service.

This year, the conduct of the Fenian agitators inspired

alarm throughout the country, and the local authorities obtained the sanction of Government to take measures for guarding against a disturbance. The magistrates in December, 1867, raised a force of three hundred special constables; these were divided into five divisions; for the districts of Torwood, including Meadfoot; the Town Hall; Upton, including Ellacombe and Boston Fields; Torre, including Torre Abbey; and St. Michael's, including the railway. The divisions were numbered A and B for the Town Hall; C and D, Torwood; E and F, Upton; G and H, Torre; and J and K, St. Michael's. It was also arranged that there should be an armed patrol, and a naval division to be provided by St. John's. These wise and judicious arrangements were made by Mr. March Phillipps, and it was doubtless due to the knowledge that such a body of men regularly met together for drill, and could be summoned at a very brief notice, that the winter passed off quietly. In the following April the services of the special constables were dispensed with.

The dues levied by the authorities of the Duchy of Cornwall on all imports and exports within the Port of Dartmouth was for many years the cause of much contention on the part of merchants belonging to the various towns comprised within its limits. These constant disputes at length culminated in the appointment of a committee of landowners and merchants, who were directed to ascertain the validity of the right of the Duchy to levy such imposts. At a meeting held at Torquay in December, 1867, the committee presented a report. According to this, the Duchy authorities based their right on the fact that King Edward III. made to his son Edward the Black Prince a grant of the "Waters of Dartmouth," by which grant the Port of Dartmouth, and inferentially the Customs Port, that is to say, the whole range from Teignmouth to the Erme, passed to the hereditary possession of the eldest son of the sovereign. In the reign of Elizabeth the limits of the Port of Dartmouth were defined by a Commission to extend from

Hope's Nose, the northernmost point of Torbay, to the river Erme, at the entrance to the Port of Plymouth. By virtue, apparently, of the powers thus devised, the Duchy of Cornwall leased, in the following reign, for two hundred years, the water bailiwick of Dartmouth to the Corporation of that town. This lease, which carried with it, or assumed in the lessees, the authority to levy certain tolls on shipping, and which dues were levied by the Corporation of Dartmouth, expired in 1859, when the Council of the Duchy refused to renew it. These dues, known as "Petty Customs," included tolls on wine, iron, wool, woad, hides, provisions, &c. The old records and account books of the Port (or haven) of Dartmouth shew that these payments were originally made by "merchant strangers" only, and only on goods exported to and imported from parts beyond seas, or such as were on that account liable to the King's subsidy. The Duchy, relying upon the impositions levied by their late tenants, the Corporation of Dartmouth, insisted upon the right to levy dues on all imports and exports, whether foreign or coastwise, metage, and other charges, some of which properly were the town dues, and enforced it. Three parties in particular stood out against these demands; first, Messrs. Hunt and Henley, merchants of Dartmouth, who were required to pay dues on fish from Labrador; secondly, Mr. Crossman, for foreign and coastwise timber and "breaking bulk" at Torquay; and thirdly, Mr. John Harvey, for timber, cement, and slate, landed at Torquay. These persons agreed to embody all questions of law and fact in a special case to be settled by a competent referee for the opinion of judges. It was urged by the committee that the question should be settled by the highest authority, because it was one that not only concerned traders but the landowners on this coast, inasmuch as the Duchy also claimed the right to the foreshore. The Duchy had intimidated several landowners into an acknowledgment of their title, and were harrassing others. A very interesting case was drawn up for the defence,

giving a complete history of the Port of Dartmouth from the time of the Conqueror. The argument, briefly stated, was, that the grant to the Black Prince was limited to the "Water of Dartmouth," that is to say, the haven of Dartmouth, and not the King's Fiscal Port of Dartmouth, extending from Hope's Nose to the Erme. The case, however, was decided against the defendants. But the question of the Duchy dues did not end here, as far as Torquay was concerned. Early in 1870 the inhabitants, in order to extinguish the dues, consented to pay an additional tollage of 6*d*. per ton on coal for five years; and on the 20th of March, 1875, the town was freed from the impost. In the course of the same year, the Torquay Local Board of Health purchased the Duchy right to two portions of the foreshore of Cary Green and Torre Abbey for the consideration of £10 and "two guineas for conveyance." While on the subject of the Port, it may be mentioned that as early as 1843 strenuous efforts had been made to obtain the privilege of having bonded stores in Torquay for the convenience of the merchants, but without success, as the following letter proves:—

"Treasury Chambers, 23rd Oct., 1843.

"Sir,—Having laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury your petition praying that a store may be established at Torquay for bonding coffee, tea, sugar, tobacco, wine, brandy, rum, and other goods, I am commanded to acquaint you that my Lords do not see sufficient grounds at present to comply with your application.

"I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"Mr. John Jope Slade, "W. NEWLYAN.

"Torquay, Port of Dartmouth, Devon."

In September, 1867, Mr. George Hearder retired from the Clerkship of the Torquay Local Board of Health. In acknowledgment of his long and faithful services, the Board voted him a gratuity of two hundred guineas. The inhabitants also subscribed a suitable testimonial, and on

the 24th February, 1868, Mr. March Phillipps, on behalf of the subscribers, presented Mr. Hearder with a purse of two hundred guineas, and a silver teapot. Mr. Hearder was employed in a public capacity in 1836, first as Clerk to the Town Commissioners, and later as Clerk to the Local Board of Health, by whom the former body was superseded. He also acted as Magistrates' Clerk from 1838. At that time the magistrates did not sit at Torquay, nor was there any Town Hall. The business was transacted at Shiphay, and the Petty Sessions were held at Newton. It was the usual practice for the Clerk to go on to Newton the day before the Sessions, in order to be in time, as the travelling accommodation was very indifferent.

The venerable Bishop of Exeter, Dr. Henry Phillpotts, died on the 19th of September, 1869, at Bishopstowe, where he had resided for nearly a quarter of a century. At his own request, he was interred by the side of his wife in the parish churchyard of St. Mary-Church. His lordship's enfeebled condition, advanced age, and long illness, had indicated that his end was near, and accordingly there was much speculation as to who his successor would be. When it became known that Dr. Temple would be nominated, there was a great outcry, and on the 25th of October, at a meeting of the clergy held in Torquay, it was resolved to present a memorial to Her Majesty against the contemplated appointment of Dr. Temple as Bishop of this Diocese, on the ground that he was one of the authors of the famous "Essays and Reviews." Dr. Temple, however, was ordained Bishop of Exeter on the 29th of December, and any prejudice that may have been entertained towards him has been completely removed by his lofty example and the devotion with which he labours in the interest and welfare of the diocese.

Her Majesty the Queen of Holland and suite, travelling under the *nom de plume* of the Comtesse Buren, arrived at Torquay on the 23rd of October, 1868, and remained a

[illegible] at the Royal Hotel. During her brief sojourn [illegible] visited various places in the neighbourhood, and was the guest of Sir L. and Lady Palk at Haldon. [illegible] again visited Torquay on the 28th of February, [illegible] and remained till the 11th of March.

In September 1871 the ex-Emperor Napoleon was [illegible] to visit Torquay for the benefit [illegible]. The last of His Majesty's journey, the [illegible] well known, for at most of the [illegible] the route the people assembled and [illegible] greetings. At Exeter the crowds on the [illegible] demonstrative. In order to [illegible] Station was kept clear, only a [illegible] passes being admitted; but the station [illegible] and the approaches to the Imperial [illegible] had been taken for His Majesty, [illegible] and were filled with people. [illegible] H. Palk were at the station to [illegible] the train reaching the [illegible] forward; and [illegible] him with [illegible] with [illegible] the [illegible] the first car- [illegible] [illegible] followed. [illegible] received an [illegible] the Prince [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] and [illegible] the Emperor [illegible] the Bay; and Mr. [illegible] for the same purpose. [illegible] were made to [illegible] Wilton at Kingswear, [illegible] to cross the river. His Majesty

dropped his walking-cane, surmounted with a gold eagle, into the water. A day or two afterwards it was recovered by Mr. E. A. Bartlett, of Christ Church, Oxford, who dived six times for it. Sir L. Palk accompanied the Emperor on various occasions, and in particular attended him on a visit to Plymouth, where he was entertained by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. On the 4th of October the Emperor honoured the Torquay Boating Club by accepting an invitation to make an excursion on the water. Four boats were made ready for the purpose. The largest was set apart for the Emperor and the Prince. The crew consisted of Messrs. J. Macdowell, H. Day, R. F. Clark, and Reigles, the coxswain being Mr. C. W. Kitson, the captain of the club. His Imperial Majesty and the Prince embarked at the landing steps at the bottom of Beacon Terrace, and took their seats in the stern-sheets, a tricolour being displayed at the stern. The second boat was occupied by Prince Murat and Dr. Connau; the two other boats followed. The Emperor's boat led, the second and third boats following on each quarter at some little distance, and the fourth boat brought up the rear. The boats went away towards Corbon Head, and then made for the Shag Rock off Meadfoot, affording the illustrious visitors a view of Torquay from a point whence it can be seen at its best. Having reached as far as Meadfoot the party returned. It may be mentioned incidentally that the Emperor and Prince Imperial readily accepted the office of patrons of the Torquay Rowing Club, a connection with Torquay which the Prince still maintains.

The Emperor was very desirous of obtaining a residence in this neighbourhood, and the object of his excursions abroad was to make a selection. It was also his intention to remain here at least some months, but for political reasons it was found necessary that he should be as near London as possible, in order to be in direct communication with his agents in Paris. Hence, after a stay of five weeks, the Emperor, the Prince Imperial, and suite, took their depar-

ture on the 18th of October. Sir L. Palk conveyed the imperial visitors by carriage through Newton to Haldon, Sir Lawrence's country seat, over which he had the pleasure of showing his guests, who ascended the Belvedere tower, nine hundred feet above the level of the sea, from which they had a delightful view of the scenery around. Sir L. Palk's collection of old armour, rare china, paintings, and antique manuscripts, were examined with considerable interest. The Emperor expressed to Sir L. Palk in complimentary terms his cordial appreciation of the respect and attention shown to him during his residence in Torquay, and said he was charmed with its magnificent scenery, declaring that both himself and the Prince Imperial had much improved in health during their stay. After lunch the party drove off in two carriages to Exeter, where they were shown over the Cathedral by the Ven. Archdeacon Freeman. During his visit to Torquay the Emperor invited a number of the principal inhabitants to his table, and to one of his guests —a gentleman who had held a high position in the Government of India—he stated that, during the Indian Mutiny, Nana Sahib, the infamous instigator of the Cawnpore massacre, had made overtures to him for an alliance with the intention of expelling the English from India.

Several subjects of considerable importance to the town have been discussed during the past ten years, but as they must be fresh in the recollection of the inhabitants, only a brief reference to them will be necessary.

The proposal to separate the parishes of Torquay and St. Mary-Church from the Newton Union, and to constitute them a distinct Union, was brought forward in 1867, and revived in 1871. Although the majority of the inhabitants at public meetings declared in favour of the proposed change, the authorities at Whitehall took a different view, for in a letter to the Town Clerk, dated the 9th of August, 1871, the Secretary wrote: "I am directed to point out to you that the question raised by the Local Board of Health

of the District of Tormoham was decided by this Board after a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case in the year 1867, and that the Board are of opinion that no new material alteration of the circumstances has been shown to have taken place since their decision as to render it desirable that the question should be again re-opened."

The purchase of the gas works by the Local Board was also advocated on the ground that gas, water, and markets, ought to be under the control of the governing body. Negociations were carried on for a long time; but although no specific price was actually named, the figures which approximate calculations elicited deterred any efforts towards obtaining an Act of Parliament for acquiring the property of the Torquay Gas Company.

The sewerage system of the town is acknowledged to be as perfect as any in the kingdom; but as the original governing bodies, in laying it down, never dreamt of the extent to which Torquay would increase, the outfalls in the vicinity of the harbour were perpetuated. Various schemes were propounded either for the utilization of the sewage, or its transportation to a more distant point on the sea coast. Sir Joseph Bazalgette, who was consulted, proposed three alternative schemes—an irrigation farm at Goodrington; an outfall into deep water at London Bridge, near Daddy Hole; or an outfall at Hope's Nose. Neither of these met with general acceptance, and the Local Board appointed a committee whose mission it was to visit various towns and ascertain the best means of disposing of the town sewage. Their report, valuable in all other respects, failed in the vital point—that of recommending a specific remedy. The Board, therefore, entered into an investigation, with the most praiseworthy earnestness, of every known project, whether mechanical or chemical, and in this they were assisted by a committee of ratepayers. The only scheme which met with anything like favour was that of Mr. E. Appleton, for taking the sewage to Bovey Heathfield,

to be there used for irrigation purposes; but the cost of raising the sewage over the hill beyond the Torre railway station, whence it would gravitate to its destination, was fatal to its adoption. Sir Joseph Bazalgette, being again consulted, recommended a modification of his original proposition for taking the sewage to Hope's Nose, which was endorsed subsequently by Sir John Hawkshaw. Dr. Nankivell also propounded a high-level scheme, with an outfall at Daddy Hole, which met with some acceptance, but was crushed by a powerful opposition. Mr. John Little, the Town Surveyor, suggested some important alterations in Sir Joseph Bazalgette's scheme, which was ultimately adopted by the authorities, and is now being carried out, at an estimated cost of £65,000. It is expected that the undertaking will be completed in March, 1878.*

The 20th of February, 1872, was observed in Torquay, in common with other places, as a thanksgiving day for the restoration of the Prince of Wales to health. There was a dinner at the Bath Saloon; a public meeting, at which loyal addresses were made; a *conversazione*; and a ball. In addition, the inhabitants raised £500 by subscription, and presented it to the Torbay Infirmary and Dispensary as a thank-offering.

The comparative immunity which Torquay enjoyed from fires of any great magnitude, was rudely broken on the night of Monday, the 16th of December, 1872, when No. 38 Fleet Street, at that time occupied by Mr. Marler, was wholly destroyed, the shell alone remaining; and the adjoining premises on either side to which the fire extended sustained great damage. The fire was caused by a servant trimming a benzoline lamp while it was still burning; the benzoline ignited, and communicating with other similar oils on the premises, the fire became unextinguishable, until the house in which it commenced was burnt out.

* See Appendix.

One of those happily rare but remarkable sights, a ship on fire, close in-shore, was witnessed by the inhabitants of Torquay on the 6th of January, 1873. A fine ship of about a thousand tons burden, the *Wallace*, of Boston, had taken a cargo of petroleum to Antwerp, and was on her return to Key West, when, owing to adverse winds, she anchored in Torbay on the 2nd. Between three and four o'clock on the morning of the 6th, a fire was discovered in her forehold. Efforts to extinguish it failed, and the signals made to the shore for help were unnoticed, in consequence of the rain and mist. The master therefore slipped his cable and made sail, with the intention of beaching or scuttling the vessel on Paignton Sands; but, while standing across Torbay, the wind shifted, and she was driven towards Torquay. The ship was wrapped in dense clouds of smoke, out of which leaped tongues of fire that ran along the rigging and caught the sails, which were instantly in a blaze. At half-past seven the vessel grounded on the beach about a hundred yards to the west of Sulyarde Terrace, the masts going by the board. As the tide rose, she drifted to within a few yards of the Torbay Road, where she settled down across the outfall sewer pipe, and continued to burn for two days and two nights.

The obituary of 1873 contains the names of four gentlemen of whom a brief notice must be given. Lord Lytton died on the 18th of January, at his residence, Argyll Hall, Waldon Hill. As Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, he first came to Torquay on the 1st of August, 1856, and took up his residence temporarily at the Union Hotel. The charming situation of Argyll Hall pleased his lordship, and he purchased it. Lord Lytton visited Torquay every winter, during which time his house was the centre of a select circle of literary friends. He was at work up to the close of life; he had just revised the proof sheets of his last work when he was seized by the disorder which at length carried him off.

Mr. A. F. Haliburton, (nephew of Judge Haliburton, author of "Sam Slick," &c.,) died on the 20th of January. During his residence of eighteen years in Torquay, he was distinguished for his unobtrusive charity. He contributed £5,000 towards the cost of Christ Church, Ellacombe.

Mr. A. B. Sheppard died on the 17th of April. Having retired from an extensive law practice, he settled in Torquay in 1857 for the benefit of his health. In 1859 he was elected a member of the Local Board of Health, of which he was appointed chairman in 1861. His legal knowledge was of great practical use to the Board in the various undertakings in which they were engaged. After holding office for about ten years he retired in consequence of illness.

Sir William Tite, M.P., died on the 20th of April, after a brief illness. He resided in Torquay several years, and associated himself with the local and county scientific societies.

The retirement of the Messrs. Kitson from the management of the Torwood estate belonging to Sir L. Palk, in 1874, called forth a general and hearty recognition of their services, not only on the part of the tenants of the manor but by the community at large. The form which this public mark of approbation assumed was the presentation of the portrait of Mr. William Kitson to the town, and a banquet to Mr. W. Kitson, Mr. Charles Kitson, and Mr. John Kitson. On the 15th of October the banquet took place at the Bath Saloons, when the senior magistrate, Mr. March Phillipps, who presided, conveyed, in a felicitous address, the public acknowledgment of the probity, conscientiousness, and honour, of the Messrs. Kitson in all the relations of life. Mr. W. Kitson, the senior member of the firm was born in 1800, and when twenty-three years of age, commenced practice as a lawyer in Torquay. In 1826 he was appointed a member of the Select Vestry, and from that time to the present has continuously represented the

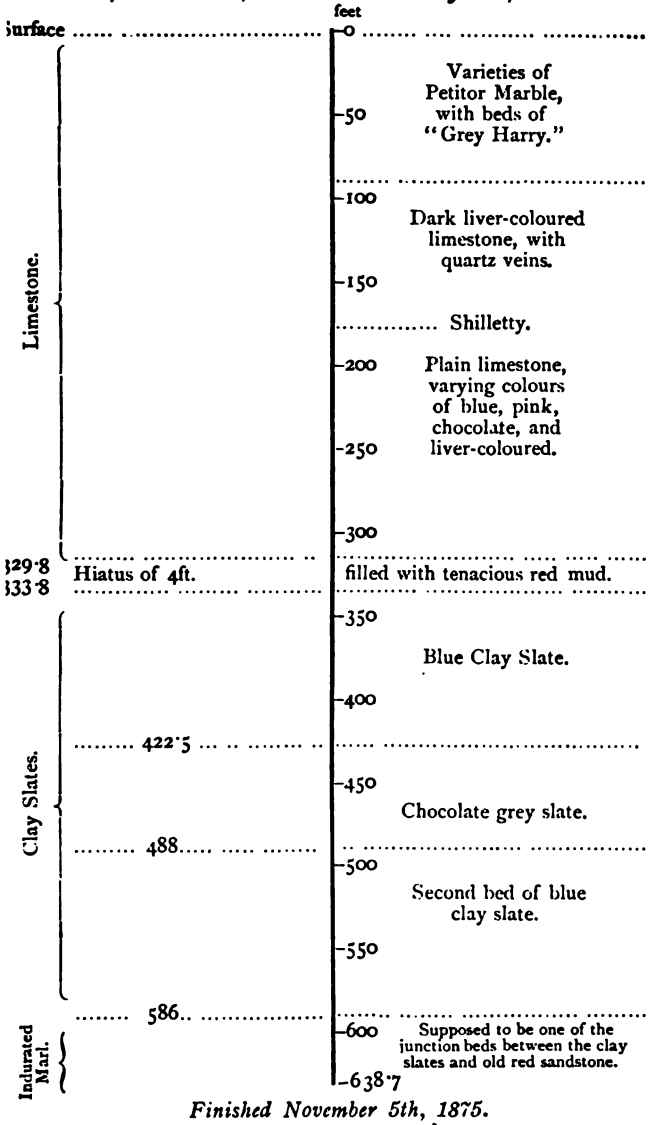
governing body of the town—first, as Vestryman, secondly as a Town Commissioner, and thirdly, as a member of the Local Board of Health. In 1833 he was associated with Mr. Abraham, at that time the manor steward, in the management of the estate. On the death of Mr. Abraham he had the entire control, and at later periods his brother Charles and his son John acted jointly with him. The administration of the affairs of the manor was placed in his hands at a critical time, when a controlling power was needed to direct and encourage inprovements, and in various other ways to advance the interests of the rising town. To Mr. W. Kitson's discrimination, foresight, and judgment, may be ascribed whatever attractions art has conferred on the town. The hills, hitherto inaccessible except by rugged pathways, were opened up by roads which were planned by him; the symmetrical arrangement of the villas on the sloping hills was the result of his fertile ingenuity; the water works by which the town was supplied before the Local Board secured the stream at Tottiford were made and developed under his eye; mainly through his instrumentality the town was lighted with gas; and markets, local government, drainage and other sanitary matters, were actively promoted by him. In short, Mr. W. Kitson had before him the task of building up a new town. How he has succeeded those who knew Torquay forty years ago ago can best bear testimony. The portrait was painted by Mr. Sydney Morrish, and is suspended in the Town Hall.

Casualties on the local branch railway lines are rare; but one occurred on the 16th August, 1875, which for its singularity and the remarkable escape of the passengers deserves to be put on record. The first passenger train from Dartmouth had arrived at the Torquay Station, and was waiting for the down goods train to pass, in order to proceed to Newton. The goods train, heavily laden, came down from Torre at a great speed, the break power being insufficient, and, passing the danger signal, dashed into

the station. The driver and stoker of the passenger train, seeing the other coming in, reversed their engine, put on steam, and leaped off. The shock was not severe. The passenger train, however, went off at an accelerated speed, and steaming through Paignton, proceeded as far as the viaduct near Churston, by which time two platelayers, who were passengers, understanding at last the true state of affairs, got out, crawled along to the engine, succeeded in arresting its further progress, and brought it back to Torquay. For this brave act, the men, Edward Perswell and Robert Harley, were rewarded by a public subscription and a silver watch each, and a gratuity by the Directors of the Railway Company.

The Torquay Brewing and Trading Company, Limited, having re-built and materially extended their brewery in 1874, found the necessity for an increased supply of water so pressing, that they called in the assistance of the Diamond Rock-Boring Company to make for them an artesian well. Commencing on the 23rd of December, 1874, in their large cellars behind their Fleet Street buildings, a first hole was driven to the depth of over 91 ft. This was abandoned at that depth, with the loss of machinery and a diamond crown worth over £60, owing to the machinery getting jammed, it is supposed, by small stones falling in upon it from the sides of the boring. On the 3rd of February, 1875, a fresh start was made at a distance of thirty inches from the previous boring, and by the 31st of May the limestone was bottomed at 329ft. 8in., when the machinery suddenly sank three or four feet through a stratum of fine, soft, tenacious red clay. This clay gave a good deal of trouble, both at the time, by making the withdrawal of the machinery difficult, and afterwards by dropping into the lower boring until it was finally stopped out by putting down iron tubes to line the hole. The next stratum met with was a very solid blue clay slate, which was found to be 82ft. 9in. in thickness.

Diagram of Boring on Torquay Brewing Company's Premises, 34 Fleet Street, commenced February 3rd, 1875.



Finished November 5th, 1875.

This passed into a bed of chocolate-coloured clay slate 65 ft. 7 in. thick, after which a bed of blue clay slate was again met with, which proved to be 98 ft. thick. This depth—586 ft. from the surface—was attained on the 7th of October. Here another and a startling change was observed. The effluent water—water pumped in by powerful machinery to bring up the detritus—was found to be blood-red, and when the machinery was withdrawn at night it was found that no "core" was brought up, thus showing that a softer material was being bored, but no clear idea could be formed of its nature. The boring operations were continued up to November 5th, to a distance of 638ft. 7in., when the boring was abandoned. Some small cores that were raised shewed that below the second bed of blue clay slate the stratum was indurated marl. This is believed by competent men to be one of the intermediate beds immediately overlaying the old red sandstone, and it is much to be regretted that the boring was discontinued by the Brewing Company before this was proved. The coloured marbles, similar to the Petitor marbles, were all found in the first 93 feet bored, and were of many varieties, varying from three to six feet in the thickness of each bed, many of them almost entirely composed of minute zoophytes, while in others the zoophytes were of large size. Beds of "Grey Harry" were frequently met with, and proved from their hardness that no process of boring other than by diamonds could have penetrated them. The limestone was broken and laminated to its lowest depth, and the largest core brought up was two feet. All the cores from the second bore hole were presented to the Torquay Natural History Society's Museum, where they may be seen. The joints of the limestone passed were filled with the fine red clay which is doubtless the sediment of the perished old red sandstone which has washed down from the Upton Valley, originally an elevated plateau of old red sandstone. Similar clay is to be met with all down the valley—notably, under the Brewing Company's malt-

house in Temperance Street, at the corner of the steps leading from Fleet Street to Abbey Road, under the new buildings of the Brewing Company and Mr. Marler in Fleet Street, and under the London Hotel; in each of these cases it forms a solid bed, of unknown depth, having the limestone on either side.

Since the failure of the above spirited attempt, the Company have not desisted from their efforts to obtain a first-rate brewing water. They have recently met with a spring of exceptionally fine quality rising in the old red sandstone formation, where it is thrown up by the rock of limestone on which the Castle College stands. This water was discovered at Ford Cottage, in the St. Mary-Church Road, by the Secretary of the Company, Mr. Perry, and the analysis shows it to be scarcely if at all inferior to the waters of Burton for brewing purposes. It is extracted by a tunnel of over 100 feet long, and is brought down to the Brewery in a two-inch pipe. The elevation of the source is sufficient to cause it to be delivered by gravitation in the highest tank at the top of the Brewery.

Through the untiring efforts of Mr. Josiah Harris, who, under the *nom de plume* of Lucretius, wrote letters in various Devonshire newspapers, urging the necessity of an additional lifeboat in Torbay, the National Life-boat Institution established a life-boat in Torquay in 1876. It was considered that a life-boat was likely to be as useful here as at Brixham, where one had already been placed; and that Torbay, which is sometimes a rendezvous for a large amount of shipping, and the shores of which are in several parts inaccessible to a life-boat on the land side, should be provided with such a boat on each side of its entrance. There was only one practicable spot where a boat-house could be built and the boat readily launched, and that was on the part of the beach called the "Ladies' Bathing Cove." The site was readily granted to the Institution by Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart., M.P., and accordingly

a handsome and commodious house was erected there. The boat is a 33-feet ten-oared one, and has been furnished with a transporting carriage, so as to make it available for Babbacombe Bay, on the east side of Torquay, as well as for Paignton on the west side. The cost of this new life-boat establishment was defrayed by Mrs. Brundret, of Manchester, through the Manchester Branch of the Institution. The inauguration of the Life-boat Station took place on the 24th of May, under the superintendence of the Chief Inspector of Life-boats, in the presence of many thousands of spectators. The boat was drawn from the railway station to the harbour—a long procession, comprising members of the Odd Fellows, Good Templars, and other societies, coastguard-men, trades' representatives, and others, with several bands of music accompanying it. On arriving at the harbour, Mrs. Brundret, the donor, formally handed over the life-boat to the Institution and the local committee, the gift being suitably acknowledged by Admiral Ward and Mr. L. B. Bowring. Archdeacon Earle then conducted a short religious service, in which those immediately present joined, and delivered a brief address to the boat's crew, after which the donor named the life-boat, in the customary manner, the *Mary Brundret*, and it was launched into the harbour. Mr. R. G. Cove is the Secretary for the Torquay Branch.

The authorities of Torquay acquired the Lincombe Drive and made it a parish road in 1875. The Drive was originally cut about 1846, at the expense of the lord of the manor, the late Sir L. V. Palk, and was maintained by him, the public being permitted to use it. Its width, however, would not permit of carriages passing, hence persons who desired to use it entered at the Meadfoot end and passed out near Wellswood. The present baronet offered the Drive to the parish on condition that the road was widened and fenced—terms which were willingly acceded to; the work cost over £1,500. In 1877, Sir L. Palk

further conceded to the town, on nominal terms, the hill side between the Drive and Meadfoot beach for the purpose of making public walks, &c.

The shipping trade of Torquay is much less now than in former years, and is confined chiefly to the importation of coal and building material. Formerly a flourishing trade was maintained with Newfoundland; that, however, has been absorbed by Teignmouth and Dartmouth; quantities of pipe and china clay from Aller were also shipped here, but are now sent off by way of Teignmouth; within the last twenty years as many as four brigs and barques made two voyages yearly to Quebec for timber; now all kinds of timber are obtained by rail from Plymouth, or brought round by vessels from adjacent ports; and latterly, owing to the general introduction of machinery, cargoes of wood, already sawn, moulded, and prepared for use, are occasionally imported from the Baltic ports. There is even a less quantity of coal imported than in former years, for since the Gas Company constructed their works at Hollacombe, the coal they consume, instead of being landed at the Torquay harbour, is discharged at Dartmouth and brought up by train to the Company's siding.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-SIXTH.

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.

The Parish Church of Tor; Architectural Description; Account of the Monuments, Brasses, and Slabs; Records of the Tombstones; The Registers; Curious Entries of Marriages during the Commonwealth; Upton District Church; Torwood Church; St. John's; St. Luke's; St. Michael's; Ellacombe Church; Trinity Church; All Saints' Temporary Church; St. Andrew's (Presbyterian) Church.—The Church of the Assumption.—The Wesleyans; The Independents; The Baptists; Bible Christians; The Primitive Methodists; The Friends Plymouth Brethren; All Christians; Unitarians; Salem Chapel.

TOR CHURCH.

THE parish of Tormohun, or Torquay, is 1,560 acres in extent, and, to meet the requirements of the increasing population, has from time to time been divided into six ecclesiastical districts, each having its church and schools. The parent Church of Torre, dedicated to St. Saviour, is a venerable fabric, supposed to have been erected at the commencement of the 14th century. The modern appearance of the exterior is due to the fact that in 1849 it underwent a complete renovation; the outer coating of plaster with which, in common with many other churches in Devonshire, it was covered, was removed, and the stonework pointed. A clock, the gift of an anonymous donor, was added in 1852. The dimensions of the interior, as given by Dr. Oliver, are 70ft. by 42ft. The building may be described as having north and south aisles which communicate with the nave by four arches. The tracery of the modern windows, on the north side, is singularly destitute of symmetry and character. On the outer corbels of the east window are the arms of Torre Abbey, Brewer, and Mohun; and on the gable above



TOR CHURCH, 1800.

HISTORY OF TORQUAY.

the window were, some years ago, vestiges of a mutilated stone, supposed to have formed the base of a cross. The singing gallery was removed in 1830, to make room for a more modern one; it bore the date of 1760, and the panels contained heraldic shields of the Ridgeway, Coplestone, Seymour, Denis, Southcote, and Cary families; side galleries were afterwards added. The screen was destroyed about 1825, probably at the same time that the pulpit and "misereres" were removed to Cockington. These latter have recently been referred to and described in a paper in the *Art Journal;* one of them bears the figure of St. Matthew, with his evangelistic symbol of the Angel, and the other has the figure of St. Luke, supported in like manner by the Bull. The font is polygonal, and ornamented with winged figures at the angles. The tower is sixty feet in height, and forms the frustrum of a pyramid, inclining about one foot each side at the summit. Originally it had no cornice and was quite plain, except that it is crenelated at the top; a cornice was added when the Church was restored. The Church will seat about 500 persons. The chancel was lengthened by 11ft. in 1874, and was opened on the 14th of February, 1875, and a new vestry erected on the southern side, the old vestry being converted into an organ chamber. The east window, which consists of beautifully-stained glass, has been retained; but a new window with ordinary glass has been inserted in the north wall. The floor is laid with mosaic tiles, to correspond with the former floor; new mahogany seats with poppy heads have been provided for the choir; a new credence table has been introduced in the north wall, while the old piscina has been refixed in the southern. A brass, dated 1581, representing Mrs. Cary and her three children, which was formerly on the floor within the Communion rails, is now fixed in the wall under the new window. In the south aisle, within the Ridgeway chapel, is a monument to the Ridgeway family. It bears the effigy of a knight in armour, surmounted by his helmet and armorial bearings. It is formed

[illegible] and is finely executed. There [illegible] of John Ridgeway, who [illegible] during the reign of Henry VIII. This [illegible] of his grandfather, and another to [illegible] erected in 1746 by Sir Thomas Ridge[illegible] Earl of Londonderry; he [illegible] having died in 1720.* The vault [illegible] relaying the floor,

* The inscriptions on the rings are herewith given, beginning with the [illegible]

Ætatis Memoriæ Sacrvm.

[illegible] virtvte propria Clariori [illegible] Septentrionali in omnes [illegible] pacis invstitiæq [illegible] controversarivm inter [illegible] patriæ studio indvstria [illegible] familia prior e Clara [illegible] virtvte pietate ac [illegible] et septem filiabus excend) [illegible] Ao Dni 1691 mense—— Placide [illegible] gloriam et glorificationem [illegible] regni Hiberniæ vice-thesavrarivs [illegible] bellicis vivsq e secre[illegible]

[illegible] Wales [illegible]

[illegible] Hvgoni earth armiro [illegible] Armigero, in matrimonivm datvm.

about 1825, and two lead coffins were exposed. There were two breastplates; that on the north side bore the inscription, "The Right Honra^ble^ Lucy Countess of Donegall, of the Kingdom of Ireland, died July 17th, 1732. Aged 35 years." That on the south side of the vault had the words, "The Rt. Hon^ble^ The Lady Lucy Ridgway Countess Dowager of Lond^n^ Derry. Obijt Sept. 4th, 1794. Ætatis suæ 55." In consequence of the addition of the chancel, in 1875, the monument was taken down and re-erected in a more secure manner, as it was in a somewhat dangerous state. On the north side of the communion table is the vault of the Cary family, surmounted by an elaborately-wrought altar tomb in a niche of the chancel wall. There are also several brasses relating to members of the family. One of these, much broken, has the figure of a lady with her three daughters in antique costume and in an attitude of prayer. The figure represents Wilmota, daughter of John Gifforde, of Yeo, and wife of George Cary, of Cockington: in domino obdormitur xxi^o^ die Junii anno dni. 1581. On the front of the family monument is the following, in Roman characters, to the memory of Thomas Cary, who bought Torre Abbey in 1662: "Here lyeth the Body of Sir George Cary, Knight, who dyed on the 27th of May, in the yeare of our Lord 1678." Near the vestry door was a slab to the memory of William Ley, of Kenn, who died at Torre Abbey, May 8, 1634: it bore the following lines:—

A carcas heare In tombe doth lye
Which once a Soule did butyfye,
Fild with divine Rayes from above,
Made happy with y^e^ Great God's love,
Peace did attend in life and death,
Soe lived and soe resygne his breath.
If blesed bee peace mackers,
Blest is hee
Who with y^e^ blesed
Blest for aye shall bee.

In a pew in the north aisle is the slab of Peter Ley, 1697; and in the nave that of the wife of Mr. Christopher Martin,

of Chilson, 1661. There are also memorials for Daniell Luscombe, Gent., of this parish, 1687; Mary his wife, 1693; and their daughter Mary Smith, 1737; George Baker, the East Indian benefactor, who was a native of Torquay, 1799; George Cary, 1752; and the Hon. Ann Cary, his wife.* The following sepulchral stones were noticed by Mr. Blewitt as existing in the churchyard in his time: Bonaventure and Elizabeth Cowell, 1689; Caleb Dyer, 1676; John Dyer, 1687; Elizabeth Manning, 1692; Gregory Adams, 1690; Elizabeth Baker of Taljton, 1725; and her son Josiah Baker, who rented the Barton of Torwood 45 years, 1753; Thomas Hydon, 1758; Richard Bickford of Cockington, 1737; Elias his son, 1764; and Grace his daughter, 1781, "the last of an honest good family;" Thomas Goad of Cockington, 1771; Burton of Cockington, 1725; Sibela Hackigs, 1710; and the following now obliterated inscription on a tomb near the tower:—

BODY OF TH°MAS WAYM°UTH

HEARE LYETH THE

Tack notes you that parse heare by
And think vpon your mortalyty
No freedom from the graue or tum
Vntel from heuen Christ doth come
Now hee is gone wee all must follo after
His wife his sone and ecke his dafters

WHO DECESED THIS

LIVE THE 20 OF NOVEMBER 1679

The following inscription on a small upright gravestone just outside the vestry door, is worthy of notice for its age and good preservation. Above the letters is chiselled the figure of a skull, with two cross bones over the face:—

Here lyeth the Body
oF peter ley Who
departed this life
September y° 20th
1697.

* *Panorama of Torquay.*

Another close by is inscribed on a brass plate fixed in front of an elm board in lieu of a stone:—

In Memory of
Mary Goad,
the wife of George Goad
of Cockington, who
departed this life the
18th of April, 1783, aged 84 years.

Beneath this stone [sic] was buried here
A virtuous wife and mother dear.

In the churchyard is a memorial to the late Mr. McEnery, Roman Catholic priest at Torre Abbey, whose researches at Kent's Cavern first drew the attention of scientific men to the remarkable character of its contents. Beneath the tree on the north side of the church is a stone to the memory of Mary Abbott, wife of Joseph Abbott; she died on the 25th of June, 1777, aged 100 or 103 years. The stone was renovated a few years ago by Mr. John Abbot, who believes that the real age of his relative was 103, but the unit figure was partially obliterated.*

The rectory of Tor Mohun, with the chapel of Cockington, was leased for life to George Cary, Secretary of War, by Queen Elizabeth, in 1601, and granted in 1607 in fee to Sir Oliver Cromwell.†

The Rev. J. James resigned the incumbency at the latter end of 1848, and the Rev. Joseph Harris, D.D., the present vicar, was appointed his successor.

Torre Church underwent a complete restoration in 1849–50, and was reopened Nov. 24th in the latter year.

Four hundred and twenty children attend the schools which are situated in East Street, Torre.

* A curious circumstance is related in connection with this person. The Nursery garden belonging to Mr. Phillips at Tor Hill, was originally held by Mr. Abbott on lease, and was known as "Abbott's Field." When the above-mentioned old lady, who lived at Tor Court, reached the age of ninety, the lease expired, and she surrendered it; but the lord of the manor allowed her to retain possession of it until her death.

† Lyson, pp. 123-4.

In the [illegible] window was placed [illegible] all classes to the memory [illegible] who commenced his Torquay [illegible] the parish some fifteen years pre- [illegible] of the window bears [illegible] the Holy Ghost, and in [illegible] Harris, M.A., some time [illegible] St. Luke's, [illegible] the above window is [illegible] congregation. [illegible] aged 40. Thy

[illegible] remaining [illegible] matter [illegible] records [illegible] in [illegible] Earl of Essex. [illegible] many [illegible] have been [illegible] its [illegible] were not [illegible] they record, but [illegible] papers,

collected together every two or three years. During the Commonwealth, there are the usual entries of marriages before Justices of the Peace, who certified that the agreements to marry had been delivered to them after having been published on "three Lord's dayes," as prescribed by law. Arthur Upton and Thomas Reynell, Esquires, were the magistrates most frequently officiating, and in 1657 a marriage took place before Christopher Farwell, "Maiour of Totness," whose name is often met with in connection with weddings in many of the parishes in the neighbourhood. At this period the "birth daies" are given instead of baptisms. Thus, in 1659, "Thomas, sonn of Lord Weston and [Lady] Frances Londonderry's birth daie was the seventeenth daie of July." The following local surnames are frequently found in the early entries: Bickford, 1649; Butland, 1652; Cowell, 1656; Blachford, 1657; Weymouth, 1658; Abbott, 1650; Tapley and Stabb, 1688; Lander, 1691; Loscombe or Luscombe, 1692; Hanouer (Hannaford), 1716; Churchward, 1661. Isam, or Irom, once a common surname, is believed to be now extinct in the parish. The first entry of baptism is dated 18th of May; marriages, 4th June; and burials, 1st April, in the year 1637. In the register of burials there is recorded an instance of a corpse being buried "in linnen." In order to encourage the manufacture of woollen stuffs, Acts of Parliament were passed, enjoining that all corpses should be buried in serge, exception being permitted only on the payment of a tax or fine. This explains the following entry: "The Right Hon. Lady Lucy, Countess of Donegal, was buried July 30th, 1732, and an information was given y^e^ next day y^t^ she was buried in Linnen."

UPTON.

St. Mary Magdalene, Upton, was constituted a district Church in June, 1848. The *London Gazette* contained the following announcement, "That a new district be formed

out of the parish of Tormohun, to be called the district of Upton, and the patronage to be vested in Sir L. V. Palk and Lawrence Palk, Esq., in consideration of an endowment provided by them of £150 a year." The late Mr. Dawson gave a large bequest. The Rev. R. R. Wolfe, of Leeds, was presented to the living by the patrons in 1848. The Church was built under what is known as Sir Robert Peel's Act; its opening was delayed for a long time, and it was only permitted at last on a certain number of subscribers raising the sum required for its completion on their personal security. A condition was annexed to the largest donation that the seats should be "free and unappropriated for ever;" this rendered a voluntary congregational fund necessary, but the amount thus raised has never been sufficient, without a special appeal, to provide for a curate's stipend. The Church was consecrated on the 12th April, 1849. It is a handsome building by Salvin, in the Early English style, consisting of a nave, lean-to aisles, apsidal chancel and detached tower, which is surmounted by a graceful spire. It has a peal of eight bells. The tower and spire were erected several years after the Church; commenced in June, 1853, and completed September, 1854; the former was built in commemoration of the Duke of Wellington. The cost of the edifice was about £15,000, and the number of seats is one thousand. There is a small burial ground attached to the Church. The first interment took place February 11th, 1850, and created much dissatisfaction in the town, as the yard abutted on the public road. This, together with the state of the churchyard at Torre, influenced the inhabitants to provide a cemetery. The eminent Arctic explorer and scientific philosopher, Dr. Scoresby, lies buried in this place. He resided in Torquay many years, and freely gave his services as a lecturer to the various literary and scientific institutions in the town. His researches respecting the effect of iron ships on the magnetic needle were of immense importance to maritime enterprise; and his works on the arctic

regions are full of interest. In December, 1857, a monument, bearing the following inscription, was erected in the church: "In memory of the Rev. William Scoresby, D.D., F.R.S., Member of the Institute of France, and of various other scientific institutions in Europe and America, in early life a distinguished seaman, renowned for his discoveries in arctic regions, afterwards Vicar of Bradford, and latterly honorary lecturer in this church: pious, benevolent, devoted to science, of surpassing energy, his friends and admirers, in grateful recollection of his public services, and as a testimonial of their regard for his private worth, have erected this monument. Born at Crofton, near Whitby, A.D. 1789, Died at Torquay, March 21st, 1857." In 1856–7 as the vane did not act, and as there was a perceptible oscillation of the upper part of the spire, Messrs. Pinder and Halliwell of Halifax, who had earned the soubriquet of "Flying Jacks" by their ability to scale steeples and chimneys, were engaged to examine the vane. By flying a kite several times, ropes were ingeniously attached to the top of the spire; one of the ropes was made to run on a pulley, with a weight at one end and a board on the other; by this means the men were able to ascend the spire, when they found that the top stone had become loosened by the working of the vane-rod, which was too slender for the weathercock. A few years later a similar defect rendered another ascent necessary, and this was performed satisfactorily by a mason and his son named Hutchings of Torquay; an operation which was again repeated in 1869.

Owing to the division of the parish into districts, the Torquay National Schools which belonged to Upton were assigned to St. Luke's, which necessitated new ones for Upton. A very handsome school-house, accommodating 230 children, was, therefore, built in 1871 on the western side of the church.

Boston Fields Schools were built in 1855, at a cost of £248, and accommodates 70 children. These have been transferred to the Ellacombe district.

TORWOOD.

At a meeting held in April, 1854, Mr. W. Kitson, on behalf of Mr. Palk, submitted a scheme to the parishioners for erecting two churches for a new district, to be known as Torwood, with a burial ground to be attached to one of them. An Act of Parliament to that effect, but without the burial ground, was passed May the 22nd, 1855. According to this Act authority was given for the cost of erection to be secured as a loan on the seat rents. Torwood has an endowment of £150 from the great tithes of the original parish, which are in the hands of lay impropriators. The two churches cost £10,000, which was borrowed under the powers of the Act, to be repaid in thirty years. In January, 1856, the Rev. J. R. Hogg was appointed to the charge of the newly-formed ecclesiastical district of Torwood. A room in a house belonging to Mr. Peek, on the Lincombe Road, was licensed by the Bishop of the diocese for carrying on divine worship until the Church of St. Mark's was erected. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. R. J. M. St. George on the 25th of April, 1856. The work progressed well until December 13th, when the tower fell down. It appeared that the most strenuous exertions had been made to hasten on the work before the setting in of the wet weather, and the rapidity with which it was advanced afforded much gratification. The masonry of the tower had been raised to its intended height when early on the morning of the 13th the whole of the eastern side fell, and the remainder was so weakened that it was necessary for it to be taken down. The church was consecrated on the 15th of October, 1857, by the Bishop of Exeter, Dr. Phillpotts. The plan of the building is cruciform, consisting of nave, arches, chancel, chancel aisles, and transepts, with central tower; the latter was restored to the roof of the building, but has never been completed. The interior of St. Mark's has a very fine effect. Mr. Minton, the eminent tile manufacturer, largely contributed

to the adornment of the church. Seats are provided for 850 persons.

St. Matthias's Church consists of nave, transepts, chancel, and gabled aisles, and will seat 500. The foundation stone was laid April 13th, 1857.

Both churches are built of the local limestone, in decorated Gothic, by designs from Mr. Salvin, and one-third of the seats are free.

Torwood was constituted a district by an Order in Council October 11th, 1861. St. Mark's Church has a fine organ, which cost £450, and was given by the congregation. St. Matthias was provided with an organ in May, 1866.

A very pretty school-house was erected close by St. Matthias's Church in June, 1871. The first stone was laid by Lady Palk. At the time the proposal was made there was some doubt whether a school was necessary, the inhabitants being so few. The school was fairly occupied with children two years after its completion; about eighty now attend.

ST. JOHN'S.

On the 22nd of November, 1861, by an Order in Council, the district of St. John's was legally defined and constituted. St. John's Church, or at least the building which occupied the ground of the existing structure, was opened in 1815, as a chapel-of-ease to Torre. It was built, according to the Trust deed, "for the purpose of promoting the interests of religion and providing the inhabitants of Torquay with a convenient place of worship." The site was purchased by the Rev. Roger Mallock, the patron of Tormohun, and the site, with the chapel, were conveyed to trustees, who had power of levying pew rents to provide a stipend for the minister. There were 300 sittings in the chapel, of which 120 were free. It was very plain and unpretentious in style; it was almost square, with heavy over-hanging eaves, and a wooden turret at the north end for the bell: it had

galleries on three sides and a small apsidal chancel. The Bishop of Exeter, whenever he was in residence at Bishopstowe, always attended service at this church, and frequently he officiated. There were occasionally differences of opinion on matters of doctrine between him and the Rev. W. G. Parks Smith, the perpetual curate of the church. On one occasion, Easter Day, 1847, as his lordship sat within the communion rails, he noticed sundry vases of flowers and a huge cross on the communion table. With a stroke of his hand he endeavoured to sweep off the vases, but did not quite succeed, for as the vases were fastened with twine, they dangled over the table. Law proceedings were instituted, and on the 28th of May judgment was given against the Rev. W. G. Parks Smith, "for placing or causing to be placed and severally to remain, during divine service on Easter Day this year, in various parts of the said Chapel of St. John's, Torquay, especially on the communion table, certain ornaments unlawful and contrary to the laws ecclesiastical, namely, two glass vases containing flowers, and a cross nine feet high and decked with flowers." Mr. Smith was sentenced to be admonished not to repeat the offence, and to pay the costs of the proceedings. As soon as the district was legally constituted, the Rev. W. G. Parks Smith, with the advice of his friends, took measures for erecting a new church. The district of St. John's is the smallest in the parish, and includes some very poor localities, the number of inhabitants being estimated at 3,000. It was therefore found impossible to provide funds for such a building as he contemplated, and having consulted Mr. Street, architect, it was resolved to erect it in sections, commencing with the chancel. By an arrangement with the Local Board of Health, the road in front was widened to nearly double its original extent, which allowed the architect to bring out the building to the line of palisades which enclosed the original building. Two of the houses of the adjacent Montpellier Terrace were purchased, thus giving scope for extending the building in that direction.

It was upon the site of those houses that the chancel was commenced. No sooner, however, was the old fabric touched, than objections were raised by the trustees, who wished to see the whole of the money required for the building of the church guaranteed before the work was proceeded with. One of their allegations was that the building committee were proceeding without a faculty. The work was stopped for several months, and it was only after protracted negociations that it was resumed. The church was built in three sections—the chancel being the first. When the chancel was completed and ready for the celebration of divine service Bishop Phillpotts raised an objection to the character of the reredos, but as his wishes in respect thereto were readily complied with, the use of the chancel was sanctioned, and it was consecrated on the 8th of November, 1864. By May, 1866, the nave had so far advanced as to allow of its being connected with the chancel, and in October, the next year, it was consecrated. During the progress of the building it was struck by lightning. This occurred on the 16th of July, 1867. Between three and four o'clock in the afternoon there was a tremendous explosion, accompanied by a vivid flash over the church. This was followed by a shower of stones, which were thrown to a distance of from two to three hundred yards. The roof of one of the houses in Lawrence Place was broken through, and several fragments struck the fronts of the houses. The electric current had struck the cross on the summit of the chancel arch, made of Ham Hill oolite, and weighing two and a-half hundred weight. Portions of the cross were found on each side of the church. The current then divided, passing down the copings of the gable, massive fragments of which were dispersed in every direction. On the north it passed away into the adjoining cliff; on the south it leaped across to the flying buttress, where it diffused itself over the roofs of the houses below, the deluge of rain causing their wet surfaces to act as a conductor. The defects caused by this exceptional thunder-

[illegible] were soon made good, and the work of restoration was in [illegible] energetically.

Mr. Street has overcome the natural difficulties of the site and constructed a church which is an ornament to the town, and, viewed from the sea, forms a prominent object in the landscape. The church has a lofty clerestoried nave, the five clerestory windows being quadruplets of lancets, unequal in height, embraced under a common hood, and divided by buttresses: there is also a clerestoried chancel, rather lower than the nave, the clerestoried windows here being large couplets of plain lancets with a multi-foiled circle in the head. The south chancel aisle has a lean-to roof in its western part, but more towards the east there is a transverse gable, which marks the organ chamber, also the sacristy. The south aisle has six traceried lights without dividing buttresses. The chancel is groined in two unequal bays, the sanctuary having a narrower quadripartite vault. The sanctuary has a rich internal arcade round its three sides. The chancel aisles open into the chancel by two arches. Projecting to the north-east of the chancel are two contiguous vestries, spacious and well-arranged. The tower stands half engaged at the south-west of the south aisle, its lower part serving as a porch. The remainder of the tower, which is yet to be built, is a design of much originality. The belfry windows are deeply recessed in panels formed by the buttresses and the cornice, they are of two lights, with a trefoil above, the arch-head being contained within a triangular label. There are deeply projecting louvre-boards. From a richly-moulded cornice rises a lead-covered quadrangular pyramid, intercepted near the top by an open-arched stage, above which the pyramid is continued. Picturesque turrets, also covered with lead, spring up at the angles.

In addition to the ordinary font which stands at the west end of the nave, there is a baptistery for adult immersions in a projecting recess, in the middle of the west wall. This baptistery, which is sunk 3ft. 9in. below the pavement,

is reached by four descending steps, and is guarded by a dwarf wall. This font is cut out of one solid block of marble.

The groining in various parts of the church is well treated, and the local marble is largely used. The vaulting shafts, the hoods of the clerestory window, and the chancel arch, are corbelled with marble shafts. The chancel aisle arches have voussoirs of alternate colours, and their piers, clustered in plan, are also of coloured marble, banded horizontally. Externally the irregularity of the site and of the level is turned to excellent picturesque effect—the east end in particular, with the fine flying buttresses supporting the chancel groining, and the vestries, roofed with gables transversely to the axis of the church at the north-east end, give variety of outline.

St. John's is a very conspicuous object from the sea, and when the tower is completed its effect will be much increased. The church will accommodate 800, and the seats are all free. The cost of construction was £12,500, exclusive of those parts which come under the head of decorations, and which have been given by members of the congregation.

The inlaid marbles in the quartrefoils in the sanctuary are separate gifts, and are the work of Mr. Blackler of St. Mary-Church. The carved bosses at the intersection of the ribs of the groined roof of the chancel represent,—the one our Lord sitting in the midst of seven lamps, holding a book with seven seals,—the other, St. John writing the Apocalypse, with the eagle by his side. The carved corbels at the chancel arch together represent the Annunciation. The handsome brass and wrought iron screen at the entrance to the chancel was presented as a memorial. The dimensions of the building are: *Nave*, length, 91 feet; width, 29; width, including aisles, 58; height to ceiling 56 feet. *Chancel*, length, 37 feet; width 28½; height, 40ft. St. John's possesses a really good organ, built by Hill and Son, of London, at a cost of £1,400; the total number of

pipes is 2,000. It has four manuals, compass CC to G, 54 notes; pedal organ compass CCC to F, 30 notes. It is composed of great organ with nine stops; choir organ with six stops; swell organ with eight stops; solo organ with five stops; pedal organ with seven stops. The instrument has also five composition pedals and three swell pedals.

The stained glass windows already in the church are as follows:—The east window is a memorial, having for its subject the entry into the Heavenly Jerusalem. In the upper part is a representation of our Lord in glory, surrounded by angels with musical instruments in their hands. The various figures below are representative characters of Patriarchs, Prophets, Apostles, Evangelists, Martyrs, Archbishops, Bishops, Virgins, and Children. In the chancel on the north side, the circular window in the clerestory over the sacrarium contains the figure of the Archangel Gabriel. The window next to it has in it the figures of Saints Gregory and Augustine, two learned doctors in theology. On the south side of the clerestory, the circular window has a figure in it of St. Michael, and the window next to it the figures of Saints John and Luke. In the south chancel aisle the window at the east end represents the Resurrection and the Ascension. In the south aisle of nave the third window has for its subjects, "Christ walking on the Sea," and "The Raising of Jairus's Daughter." In the last window the subjects are "The Nativity" and "The Annunciation." The window in the south clerestory of the nave has in one centre light the Crucifixion and the Brazen Serpent; in the other the Piercing of our Lord's Side and Water from the Rock. The figures in the smaller lights are those of St. Thomas and Elijah. The window over the baptistery represents the Holy Spirit.

Mission Rooms are maintained in Swan Street and Braddons Street. There are also two schools; one the choir school, which supplies the choir with voices, costing from £100 to £150 a-year, and the girls' and infants' school in Braddons Street, which number about 120 children.

DISTRICT OF ST. LUKE'S.

When the district of Upton was formed and the church built, it was thought that ample means had been taken to meet the requirements of the parish for many years to come. This, however, soon proved erroneous. The ever-increasing population (which had doubled itself from 1851 to 1861) demanded further church accommodation. The Rev. Dr. Harris strove to meet the requirements of the poor districts of Torre, Melville Street, and neighbourhood, and with the assistance of friends, he obtained a site for what he proposed to be a very unpretending building, as a chapel-of-ease to Torre, in the plantation of beeches on the north slope of Warren Hill. The cost of the church was estimated at £6,000, and the plans were prepared by Mr. A. W. Blomfield. Unfortunately for the promoters, the cost of the site, both in its purchase and excavation, proved to be unexpectedly large. The corner stone was laid by Mr. H. C. Mallock. Enclosed in the stone was a bottle containing a number of current coin, and a parchment bearing the following inscription :—

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, this corner stone of the Church of St. Luke the Evangelist, in the parish of Tormohun, in the county of Devon and diocese of Exeter (to be built by voluntary contributions for the increased accommodation of the parishioners of the said parish) was laid by Charles Herbert Mallock, Esq., of Cockington Court, Devon, patron of the united living of Tormohun and Cockington, on the 9th May, 1861, being Ascension Day, the Right Rev. Henry Phillpotts, D.D., being Bishop of the diocese, the Rev. Joseph Hemington Harris, D.D., being perpetual curate of the united parishes; Arthur W. Blomfield, being the architect. Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. —Matt. xxviii., 30. Lord, remember Thy gracious promise, and progress the work of our hands. Amen."

On the 4th of November, 1862, the church was consecrated by the Bishop of Jamaica. The building will seat a thousand persons, and half the church from east to west is entirely free and unappropriated. The design has been adapted to the peculiar site, and while the church is by

no means destitute of ornamental details, use and not show was the main object aimed at. The substitution of iron for stone in the columns between the nave and aisles is a very pleasing one, although there is no precedent for the use of iron columns in churches. The practical gain is, that the view of the officiating clergyman is not cut off from any one member of the congregation. The proportions of the chancel arch are very good—springing from richly-carved caps, resting on columns of Devonshire marble, which again rest on finely-carved angels.

The chancel was enlarged and beautified in 1870. The whole of the roof of the chancel is panelled, and in each panel there is either an inscription or scriptural representation illustrative of the Benedicite and Te Deum. Beneath and in the centre are the Holy Trinity, and on either side Israel, Abraham, Moses, and David, and the priests of the Lord, Samuel, Melchesideck, and Aaron. The next series of five medallions below contain angels with scrolls, and beneath each, taking them in order, are Cherubim and Seraphim, the Apostles SS. Peter, Paul, and Matthew; the Prophets Hosea, Daniel, and Ezekiel; the Martyrs SS. Agnes, Stephen, and Catherine; the Holy Church, SS. Jerome, Ambrose, Austin, and Gregory. The illustrations of the Te Deum are over the altar, and that of the Benedicite over the choir. Above the seats of the clergy is a frieze, with medallions of angels; over the chancel arch the Annunciation; and below these are the Ten Commandments. The colours are altogether rich, and harmonize as far as possible with the natural hue of the surrounding sandstone and marbles.

The schools for St. Luke's were commenced in Rock Road in October, 1861, and were opened on the 22nd of April, 1862; two hundred children can be accommodated.

In 1869 St. Luke's was created an ecclesiastical district, taking the back lane of Pimlico and the Torquay National Schools from Upton parish.

The first vicar was the Rev. George Collyer Harris, son

of the incumbent of Tor. He was a clergyman of great ability, and soon made St. Luke's the most popular of the churches in Torquay. The church was crowded at every service, and on many occasions admission could not be gained. Soon after the appointment of Bishop Temple, the Rev. G. C. Harris was made a prebendary of Exeter Cathedral. Unfortunately for his congregation his health broke down, and after a visit to Italy he returned to Torquay, and died on the 4th of May, 1874, aged forty years. The Rev. W. S. Boyle, who had officiated as curate for some considerable time, was presented to the vacant living.

The late vicar had long cherished a design for establishing a Middle Class School, and his friends have since erected a building for this purpose, and have dedicated it to his memory. The school was formally opened on the 3rd of May, 1877. Mr. Firth Garside, M.A., is the head master.

THE MISSION CHAPEL OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, PIMLICO.

As soon as St. Luke's was created an ecclesiastical district, the late Rev. Preb. Harris, the vicar, resolved upon promoting mission services in the poorest quarter of his district. With this view he obtained possession of a roomy store in Pimlico, formerly used as coal cellars, which he caused to be neatly fitted up as a place of worship. The humble mission room soon became insufficient to accommodate the congregation, and hence the building of a new church was resolved upon. A site in Pimlico, abutting on Market Street, was obtained, and the foundation stone was laid by Sir L. Palk, M.P., on the 24th of July, 1875. The stone consisted of a square block of black marble, with one side polished, on which was cut the following inscription:

"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, the foundation stone of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels was laid on the 24th of July, 1875, by Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart., M.P., in the episcopate of Frederick Temple."

The church was opened by the Bishop of Exeter on the 29th of April, 1877. It consists of a nave, with north and south lean-to aisles, a north porch, a chancel, with a south aisle screened off from the south aisle of the nave to act as a choristers' vestry, while the priests' sacristy is to the east of it, and corresponding with the south chancel aisle is a transeptal building on the north side, to contain a future organ. This feature in the architect's original design represented a tower and spire of imposing dimensions, a project which, for various reasons, was abandoned, but which, if desired, may yet be engrafted on this transeptal erection. The internal dimensions from east to west are 101ft. 6in. long, and 51ft. across, embracing the aisles; the nave is 62ft. 6in. long, and the chancel is 39ft. long by 21ft. 9in. wide. The nave, which is fifty feet high to its apex, is divided from its aisles by a graceful arcade of massive proportions of four bays; from the terminals of the labels of these arches centreing with the columns of the arcade rise boltels or shafts, embedded in a hollow, edged with beading, to carry the curvilinear braces of the bold principals which sustain the roof. Over the arcades are clerestory windows, arranged in couplets; the internal arches spring from a double-shafted pier, resting on the crown of the arches of the aisles, and on each side from a shafted pier which is divided by the boltel previously mentioned; a shafted corbel beneath these clerestory arches also carries a roof principal. Centreing with each bay of the arcade, except where the porch occurs, are windows in couplets to light the aisles; these are divided externally by broad piers, and internally by isolated shafts. The west end is lighted by a fine rose window. The nave roof consists of twelve bold, finely-moulded, curvilinearly-braced principals, which, springing from their shafts, fling themselves across the spacious nave, and the lower portions are supported by foliated curvilinear braces between the principals, which are further stayed by a moulded continuous rib at the apex of the braces of the principals. The nave

is divided from the chancel by a lofty archway, thus bringing into view the richly arcaded walls of the chancel. The side walls have five bays of upper arches, three of which on the south side, and two on the north, are pierced with lancet windows. The two westernmost bays are blank panels, abbreviated by the intrusion of an arch similar to those of the arcade, dividing the chancel from its south aisle, and from the organ chamber to the north. On either side, underneath the windows and centreing with them though subdivided, is a smaller arcade of five bays, which, on one side, ingeniously embraces a credence-shelf and sedilia of three bays, while the last forms the entrance into the priest's sacristy. The chancel being as lofty as the nave, admits of a grand triplet window, the centre light of which is 19 feet high, and on a line with its sill runs a continuous deep, well-moulded, alabaster cornice, having carved angels at intervals, holding a continuous riband, whereon are incised the words, "Holy, Holy, Holy." The building belongs to what is known as the "first pointed" style of architecture. The stone used is the red conglomerate of Paignton, the dressings consisting of a green stone from the Forest of Dean. Mr. Pritchard was the architect, and Mr. W. A. Goss the builder. The cost was £6,300. The Rev. H. M. Patch is the curate in charge.

DISTRICT OF ELLACOMBE.—CHRIST CHURCH.

This district was formed out of Upton, the order for its erection appearing in the *London Gazette*, August, 1868. As far back, however, as 1861, Sir L. Palk saw the necessity of providing for the spiritual needs of the increasing population, and when appealed to by the Rev. Preb. Wolfe, granted a site for a school-house, with a gift of £100 towards its erection. The remainder of the sum necessary was raised by the rector of Upton. The school was built and used for the performance of divine worship up to the time the new church was opened. The late Mr. A. F.

Haliburton offered to build the church, at a cost of £5,000, and Sir L. Palk, besides giving the site for the church, set apart a piece of land for the parsonage, and gave an annuity of £25, equivalent to the sum of £625; it was agreed that the patronage should be vested for forty years in the hands of Sir John Kennaway, the Rev. R. R. Wolfe, Mr. C. Pannel, and Mr. A. F. Haliburton. The corner stone was laid on the 9th of August, 1867, by the founder (Mr. Haliburton), and on the 20th August, 1868, it was consecrated by Bishop Chapman, of Colombo, acting for the aged Bishop of Exeter. The edifice is in the early Gothic style of architecture, and is built of the local limestone, with Bath stone dressings. It consists of a nave, ending in an octagonal apse, and is 95 feet from east to west, and 53 feet wide, including the south aisle, which is divided from the nave by Gothic arches, supported by iron columns with enriched capitals. At the south-west angle is a tower, which serves as an entrance lobby to the church, with an organ gallery above. The tower terminates in an octagonal belfry and a Bath stone spire. The church internally is very spacious and open. Accommodation is provided for seven hundred persons, and provision has been made for future enlargement.

The first vicar was the Rev. A. Baring-Gould, who was succeeded by the Rev. C. Camp; and the present holder of the living is the Rev. J. A. Jamieson.

In April, 1877, the parishioners determined to provide their vicar with a parsonage, and at the preliminary meeting about £400 was subscribed. Subsequently, the Committee to whom was confided the task of procuring a parsonage, purchased Osborne Hall, the freehold of which has been given by Sir L. Palk and Mr. Palk.

TRINITY CHURCH.

Trinity Church is a proprietary place of worship in connection with the Establishment. It was originally built as

an Independent Chapel, after designs by Mr. Foulston. The foundation stone was laid by Admiral Pearson on the 3rd of June, 1830, and was opened on the 21st of June, 1831. The Rev. W. Greenwood was the minister; he, however, joined the Church of England, and took the greater portion of his congregation with him, and ever since that the church has been connected with the Establishment. It was afterwards purchased by the Rev. R. Fayle for £4,000, and in 1838 underwent considerable alterations. On the death of Mr. Fayle in 1874, the church passed into the hands of the present minister, the Rev. F. Baines. Seating is provided for 1,000 persons. Trinity schools were opened on the 6th of January, 1847, and provides for 200 children.

ALL SAINTS (TEMPORARY) CHURCH.

As a new town, comparatively speaking, was soon built over the Torre Abbey meadows, the accommodation afforded by the parish church of Torre was inadequate, and a proposal was made to enlarge the building. This, however, being objected to on the ground that the graves in the yard would be interfered with, it was determined to build a temporary church to meet the immediate needs of the population, leaving the erection of a permanent edifice to a more convenient time. Accordingly a site was obtained in a field at the higher end of Mill Lane, and a temporary church was built, which was opened on the 31st of October, 1867. It has proved of great service to the neighbourhood. The Rev. W. Arthur is the curate in charge.

ST. ANDREW'S (PRESBYTERIAN) CHURCH.

This church, situated in the Torwood Gardens, was opened on the 5th of April, 1863; the style is described as early Gothic, with Scottish features. Accommodation is provided for five hundred persons. The minister is the Rev. A. N. Mackray.

THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION.

From the passing of the Toleration Act to 1854 the Roman Catholics of the district worshipped in Torre Abbey where the refectory of the old monks was converted into a chapel. A piece of ground, covered with a plantation of fine beech trees, situated in the Abbey Road, was given by Mr. Cary as a site for a new church; and on the 24th of April, 1853, the foundation stone of the Church of the Assumption was laid by the Right Rev. Bishop Errington, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Clifford. Among those who assisted at the ceremony were the Earl and Countess of Fingall, Lady Henrietta Plunkett, the Hon. E. Plunkett, Lord Stafford, and Sir H. and Lady Bedington. The rain fell heavily; the Bishop notwithstanding stood forward and delivered an appropriate address. He alluded to the fact that the site of the new chapel was still on the grounds of Torre Abbey, where Roman Catholics had for many centuries worshipped, and that the ground was the gift of their liberal patron, Mr. Cary. Early in 1854, the church was consecrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Errington, Bishop of Plymouth, assisted by the Hon. and Very Rev. Canon Clifford, the Very Rev. Monseigneur England, the Very Rev. Canons Wollett, Brindle, Power, and Morris, and the Rev. Messrs. Lomax, Cass, Price, and Laffin, with about twelve other priests. The building was considered an excellent example of Early English architecture, but the additions on the north side have not improved its appearance, and the entire removal of the beech trees in front within the last few years has given it a naked appearance. The church was built from the designs of Mr. Hansom, and holds about four hundred; it consists of nave, transepts, and chancel. The handsome stained glass window in the chancel, representing the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, was given by Mr. Cary, and the rich marble altar was contributed by several members of the congregation. A school house on the south side and a presbytery at the west end were

built in 1857. Subsequently the presbytery was devoted to the purposes connected with the school, and another was built to the east of the church. The foundation stone of the school bore the following inscription :—

"✠ The foundation stone of these schools was laid to the glory of God on July 16th, 1857, whilst Pius IX. was governing the Church, Queen Victoria happily reigning over the British Empire, the Right Rev. Dr. Vaughan presiding over the See of Plymouth, the Very Rev. M. J. Canon Power, incumbent ; C. H. Hansom, architect."

In 1856 an organ was provided by the congregation.

In April, 1853, the Rev. Canon Power, "priest of the Roman Catholic Mission to Torquay," was, on the occasion of his leaving the town, presented with a hundred guineas and a silver medal.

THE WESLEYANS.

Wesleyanism may be said to have been planted in this district by the founder of the denomination himself. Although there is no passage in his Journals to indicate that he actually visited the spot, there is the oral testimony of inhabitants which it would be difficult to gainsay. St. Mary-Church was visited on different occasions by Wesley and Whitfield, whose teachings took a firm hold on the minds of the people. Wesley held meetings at the house of one of the members at Barton, and there is a field pointed out as the place where he addressed the people in the open air. Whitfield was a guest of the Shepherds who lived at Westhill. Wesleyanism was sedulously fostered at Barton, where the friends met together at each other's houses, and eventually set up a meeting room in 1806, mainly through the efforts of Mr. J. Henley. About the same time Methodism was introduced into Torquay by Mr. Edward Henley, the members meeting regularly for service in a room in George Street. A difficulty was experienced in obtaining ground on which to erect a chapel, for Nonconformity was under a cloud. This, however, was at length

overcome, for their first chapel was opened in 1807,* on the ground now occupied by Mr. Crockwell's shop in Fleet Street. A Sunday school was established in 1814. In 1853 "the chapel in the Meadow," as it was termed, was given up for a more commodious and handsome building, erected in the Rock Road, forming at that time a very conspicuous and ornamental feature of the town. But when Fleet Street was built it was completely hidden from view. The chapel, which was opened July 7th, 1853, was designed by Mr. E. Appleton. It is Early English in style, and has a nave and two aisles. The chapel provides seats for one thousand persons. Several alterations and improvements have been made since its erection. The adjoining schools were opened on the 3rd of April, 1859. The cost of the chapel and schools was over £3,000. In 1859 several of the members seceded and joined the Methodist Free Church, and for some considerable time conducted their worship in the Union Hall. Owing to the difficulty of reaching the chapel, several members of the body determined to provide another, which should also meet the wants of the eastern portion of the town. Accordingly they obtained an excellent site on the Babbacombe Road, and on the 3rd of March, 1873, the three memorial stones of Wesley Church were laid by Sir Francis Lycett, Mr. T. F. C. May, and Mr. W. Parker. The Rev. Luke Wiseman, President of the Conference, was present at the ceremony. On the 7th of January, 1874, the church was opened. The building forms a prominent object on the Babbacombe Road, and its lofty spire is an attractive feature in the landscape from various points of view. The dimensions of the church are 78 feet by 48. The chancel is 10 feet deep and 26 in width; adjoining are various class rooms, vestries, and other offices. Like St. Luke's Church, iron columns have been introduced, and separate the nave from the side aisles. The roof is open-timbered and match-boarded in pa colour. For the corbels, caps, springers, and dado on

* At first the front entrance was in Swan Street.

terra-cotta from the Watcombe Potteries was employed, and forms an effective contrast to the mural stuccoing and the varnished wood-work. The pulpit and reading desk are constructed of pitch pine. The floor of the chancel is laid with ornamental tiles. The windows are fitted with tinted glass, those at the eastern and western ends being coloured. The seats are low and open. The architectural style may be described as early decorated Gothic. The facing is of dressed limestone from the Barton quarries, and the main quoins are of dressed dark limestone from Chudleigh, otherwise the dressings are of box-ground Bath stone. The tower to the cornice rises 40 feet, with a stone spire, terminating in a cross, 134 feet above the level of the ground. The architect was Mr. Johnson, London, and the builder Mr. E. P. Bovey, Torquay.

This beautiful church did not altogether meet the requirements of the Wesleyans; those who worshipped at the Rock Road Chapel still desired a more accessible place. Accordingly it was determined to build another chapel, and a site was obtained in Lower Union Street. The six memorial stones of the new edifice were laid on Tuesday, the 6th of November, 1877—the first by Miss Brock of Exeter, the second by Miss Bayliss, the third by Mr. Herbert Hart, the fourth by Mr. Rolestone, the fifth by Mr. H. Wills, and the sixth by Mr. G. W. Williams. The chapel and schools will have a frontage of 110 feet; the former will seat a thousand persons, and the latter will accommodate three hundred children. The architect is Mr. J. W. Rowell, and the builder Mr. E. P. Bovey.

THE INDEPENDENTS.

Although the cause of Independency in Torquay has undergone some strange vicissitudes of fortune, it is powerful and progressive. In 1831 the body was fairly numerous, and Trinity Church was built by them. The pastor, Mr. W. Greenwood, as stated in a preceding page, joined the

Church of England, and took with him the greater portion of the congregation. There were fifteen, however, who still adhered to the old cause; these procured a room in Swan Street, close by what is now the foundry, and there carried on their worship until they were in a position to erect a chapel. In a short time they obtained a piece of ground in Cary Street, as Lower Union Street was then known, and in April, 1833, erected a neat little chapel which was capable of seating 350 persons, afterwards adding a school room. In 1845–6 a difference occurred between the pastor (the Rev. John Orange) and the members; the bulk of the latter seceded, and carried on their services at the Union Hall, under the Rev. A. Pope of Leamington. On the 13th of April, 1846, the foundation stone of the "Rock Meeting House" (Abbey Road Independent Chapel) was laid by the late Sir Culling Eardley. On Thursday, the 23rd of September, 1847, the chapel was opened. The building is Byzantine in style, and is not inelegant. It will seat about 800 persons. The Rev. A. Pope continued the pastorate for a few months, but was compelled to retire in 1848 in consequence of ill health. In 1864 the chapel underwent considerable enlargement, a gallery was added, and some of the heavy columns were removed. In 1867 a vestry, hall, lecture room, minister's vestry, organ apse, and singing gallery, were added. The British Schools adjoining were opened April 29th, 1853. It was originally intended for 400 children, but it has since been enlarged, and will now accommodate 650. The cost of chapel and schools was not less than £10,000. The chapel was seriously damaged by fire on Sunday the 3rd of January, 1874, which was caused by the over-heating of a gas stove. The fire was discovered in the apse, behind the pulpit, soon after five o'clock in the evening; the organ loft, the seats used by the choir, and a portion of the pulpit were destroyed. The damage was estimated at £500.

Some of the influential members of the chapel believing that Congregationalism was capable of considerable develop-

ment in Torquay, took measures for erecting a new place of worship, but before commencing so great an undertaking contented themselves with raising a temporary chapel of wood on the western side of the north-east Avenue at its higher end, at a cost of £1,500.* This chapel was opened on the 23rd of April, 1867. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan was the first minister, but he was obliged to retire after a few months, the state of his health not permitting him to carry on public ministrations. A site for the new church was selected in Morgan's Nursery, at the junction of Torre Church Road with Abbey Road, and on the 24th of February, 1870, Belgrave Church was opened. Its architecture is Gothic, of the early decorated period. The building consists of a nave, with north and south aisles, transepts, and an apsidal projection at the end of the nave, with organ chambers on one side and vestries on the other. At what may be termed the west end of the north aisle stands a massive tower, which serves as a porch on that side of the building, and from it across from the west end of the nave is the narthex or porch for access to the main portion of the building. There are galleries over the aisle and west end of the nave, with light open fronts of a character which to a great extent diminishes the objection usually made to galleries. The nave is supported from the aisles and transept by an arcade, carried by ornamental iron columns of a size which does not in any way prevent the congregation from seeing or hearing the minister. The appearance of the exterior is very striking, with its broken outlines and lofty tower, crowned by a parapet of Bath stone of rich design, and pinnacles at the angles. The tower is nearly a hundred feet in height from the level of the road. The intermixture of the local grey limestone with Bath stone in the external walls have a very pleasing effect. The chapel was designed by Mr. J. W. Rowell. In

* After Belgrave Church was opened the Temporary Chapel was purchased by the East Vitifer Mining Company, who removed it to their works, and there utilised it as a dwelling house and offices.

1877 the wealthy congregation of Belgrave Church purchased the chapel in Cary Street, and resold the property for business purposes; the chapel is now converted into the St. George's Hall, and the school room has given place to shops.

THE BAPTISTS.

This denomination was founded during the early part of the present century at Barton; a branch was established in Torquay in 1831, the members meeting together in a room in George Street. A Sunday school was established in 1838. In a few years they built a neat little chapel, to hold about two hundred persons, in Temperance Street. In later years, under the ministry of the Rev. James Kings, who was very popular, the Baptists largely increased in numbers. On three occasions, commencing in 1863, the chapel was enlarged, but it was still too small. Accordingly ground was obtained in the St. Mary-Church Road, and the Upton Vale Chapel was built at a cost of £3,000. The foundation stone was laid March 25th, 1862, by Mr. J. L. Parry, of Delhi, and it was opened for divine service in March, 1863. The building is very plain and neat; bands of brick relieving the limestone constitute almost the only ornamentation, and there is no attempt at architectural effect. There is a large school on the basement, which will accommodate 400 children, and there are vestries, a lecture hall, class room, and a chapel house. The chapel is the largest in the town, and will seat 1,400 persons. On the 3rd of March, 1864, the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon preached two sermons in the chapel. The Rev. J. Kings died in December, 1867, and was succeeded by the Rev. Evan Edwards.

BIBLE CHRISTIANS.

This community was formed in Torquay about the year 1837. The foundation stone of the chapel now used by them at Tor Hill was laid on Whit-Monday, 1863, and it

was opened on the 15th of May, 1854. It is a pretty building, and will hold 600. The schools and a house for the minister were built in 1867, the cost of the whole being over £2,000.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODISTS.

The old Baptist Chapel in Temperance Street was purchased by the Primitive Methodists for £650, and was opened by them July 26th, 1863. The building, which is semi-Gothic, will hold 700 persons. A new chapel and schools are now built for this denomination at Ellacombe.

THE FRIENDS.

The Society of Friends established a meeting house in the Warren Road in 1854; it will hold 200 persons. There is a library connected with the Society, consisting of denominational works.

PLYMOUTH BRETHREN.

The two sections of Plymouth Brethren are represented, namely, at the room in the Warren Road, built in 1852, which will hold 500, and at the room at the head of Banner Cross Steps. The latter body have recently removed to a large room in Lower Union Street.

ALL CHRISTIANS.

There is a meeting room for All Christians at Torre, a denomination which has been established for about forty years.

UNITARIANS.

Twenty-seven years ago the Unitarians held their services in the upper room of what is now the Golden Lion

public house, Lower Union Street. Mr. Montgomery was the minister, and when he left the town the small congregation became dispersed.

SALEM CHAPEL.

This chapel, now used as the School of Science and Art, originated in a singular way, through the instrumentality of a gentleman whose memory is still revered by a large number of the inhabitants of Torquay. The late Mr. Robert Stark was born at Chelson April 17th, 1788, and was brought up in the doctrines of the Church of England. After his marriage in 1814 he joined a body of dissenters of the Calvinistic persuasion, and having a large knowledge of the scriptures, for he was a very studious man, he was occasionally called upon to occupy the pulpit. In the course of his researches he found that he could not accept the orthodox method of interpretation. His original views led to an estrangement between himself and his co-workers, and the result was that he left them. Mr. Stark, however, held meetings at his own house to search and discuss the scriptures; friends increased so much that a room used as a Freemasons' Hall was taken, and subsequently the chapel was built. In 1832 Mr. Stark was accidentally led to the acquaintance of Mr. Wilkinson (the first mayor of Exeter after the passing of the Reform Bill, 1832), and much to their mutual surprise they found that they held similar views on religion. "In 1836 Dr. Lee's Dissertation on Prophecy was lent to Mr. Wilkinson for his perusal. The plain statements there made of the fulfilment of all prophecy filled him with equal surprise and delight, and he immediately wrote to inform his friend of this fresh corroboration of the truthfulness of their views of scripture doctrines from the hands of the most learned man in ancient languages in the world. The work was forthwith procured by Mr. Stark, and eagerly perused, and although there were

points of difference in detail, he found that the broad principle of the past Second Advent of Christ was therein clearly stated, and both he and Mr. Wilkinson wrote to Dr. Lee, sending him some of the tracts they had published; this led first to a correspondence by letter, and afterwards to a personal interview with the learned Professor, from which all three derived the pleasure which any would feel at meeting with those with whom they can perfectly accord."* Mr. Stark died August 9th, 1854, and in a few years afterwards his chapel was closed.

* "A Divinely Commissioned Ministry," by Robert Stark. Edited by his daughter, Mrs. R. C. Wilkinson. Published 1858.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-SEVENTH.

INSTITUTIONS.

THE TORBAY INFIRMARY AND DISPENSARY.

AMONG the many charitable institutions for which Torquay is distinguished, the Torbay Infirmary and Dispensary takes the first place. A public Dispensary was commenced in 1843, at a house in Lower Union Street. In 1847 it developed into an Infirmary, accommodation being provided for a few inmates. The Governors were from the first anxious to provide a building to be wholly devoted to the objects of the institution, and in April, 1849, tenders were invited for a new building. Sir L. Palk granted a site on favourable terms, and at a subsequent period made a gift of the site. On the 24th of August, 1850, the foundation stone of the main building was laid by Prince Peter of Oldenburg, and in 1851 it was opened. The wing on the west side was added in 1862, mainly through the instrumentality of the late Mr. N. B. Edmonstone, who was desirous of providing fever wards. This part of the building, however, not having been required for the reception of fever patients it was resolved at a meeting of the special subscribers to this wing, held on the 19th of November, 1864, "That this meeting, recognising the necessity of increased accommodation for in-patients in the Torbay Infirmary and Dispensary, sanctions the appropriation of the wing built for the exclusive reception of fever patients to such purposes as the Weekly Board may deem expedient, provided that such arrangements are made as will allow of the admission of fever patients in some part of the building."

In 1875 the east wing was built as a hospital for children, at the solicitation of Mr. W. Lavers, who generously gave a thousand pounds towards the cost. The institution is supported by voluntary contributions. Its funded property is very small, and hence it depends on subscriptions and donations, which fluctuate very much, and frequently the financial year closes with a heavy deficit. Its affairs are managed by a Weekly Board, and the Governors meet every half year. There is a house surgeon, dispenser, and matron, resident on the premises, and also a very efficient staff of honorary physicians and surgeons. Mr. W. H. Kitson is the honorary secretary.

In the latter part of the year 1877 the institution was re-constructed; the Dispensary was abolished and in its place was formed a Provident Dispensary, by means of which the poor, on payment of a few shillings a-year, are enabled to secure professional advice and medicine. The name of the institution was altered to the Torbay Hospital and Provident Dispensary.

The Torquay Medical Society holds its meetings at the institution, where there is a large collection of medical works.

HOMŒOPATHIC DISPENSARY.

The Homœopathic Dispensary was commenced in 1848, and is conducted at the establishment of Mr. Rendall, in Fleet Street.

WESTERN HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION.

In 1848 Miss Maria Gore, of Wilcot Manor, Marlborough, now the Hon. Mrs. Powys-Keck, founded the nucleus of what is known as the Western Hospital for Consumption, of which she has ever since continued to be the principal support. It was placed upon a more permanent basis in 1850, as the Wiltshire Institution for Consumption, at Vale Lodge, Torre, and was reopened in 1852 at Wycliffe House, since

named the Western Hospital, and is situated three parts up the Warberry Hill at Torquay. It is an admirable institution, and provides a home for eight months in the year to fifty patients (twenty-five males and twenty-five females) of the humbler classes, who are furnished with every requisite and comfort, without any cost to themselves. The institution is supported by voluntary contributions. The medical staff, as first appointed, consisted of Dr. Tetley, Dr. Battersby, and Dr. Madden, as acting physicians. To them Dr. Radclyffe Hall was soon afterwards added. After serving for fifteen years they all agreed to resign together and make way for a fresh set of acting physicians, and were appointed consulting physicians. Mr. William Pollard has acted as honorary surgeon from the commencement. The mode in which the trustees were enabled to purchase the premises is interesting. Sir Hugh Hoare, of Wiltshire, sent in as a patient a female servant from his establishment. She was in an advanced stage of consumption, and, becoming worse, expressed a wish to return home. This Sir Hugh Hoare kindly permitted, and sent his housekeeper to fetch her back to his own house, where she shortly afterwards died. Influenced by what he heard as to the kindness shewn to her during the brief period of her stay, Sir Hugh Hoare sent a donation of £500 to the Western Hospital. This, aided by the returns obtained from a large bazaar held on two occasions at Torquay, enabled the trustees to purchase the building and add to it two large and commodious wings. The lord of the manor, Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart., kindly gives up the ground rent of the land and garden on which the institution stands, which is tantamount to a liberal donation every year.

ERITH HOUSE INSTITUTION FOR INVALID LADIES.

This institution was founded for the benefit of a class of persons of a somewhat higher social standing than the Western Hospital. The late Sir Culling Eardley was its

first projector. It was established in 1854, and may be said to have originated out of the Western Hospital. Two young ladies were sent to Torquay under the impression that the Western Hospital was an institution adapted for their reception. Their painful situation was brought to the knowledge of Sir Culling Eardley, who at once made arrangement for their reception in lodgings. At a meeting held on the 20th of February, 1854, Sir Culling Eardley consulted several of his friends in Torquay, and the result was a resolution to provide a place where ladies of limited means suffering from chest complaints might be suitably accommodated. As an experiment, No. 10 Vaughan Parade was taken in September, 1854. The next year this was improved upon by the promoters taking a much larger house on the Warberry Hill, at a rent of £120 per annum. So well satisfied were the friends of the institution with the results that they felt themselves warranted in providing an establishment especially adapted for its requirements. Accordingly Erith House was built, a large and splendid structure, situated on the right of the Babbacombe Road. The objects of the institution are: 1. To provide a temporary residence, with board, medical care, and medicines, for ladies of limited means, chiefly those suffering from chest diseases, viz., wives or daughters of clergymen, naval and military officers, and professional men, and governesses, to whom a mild climate during winter would be beneficial. 2. To secure for the inmates the consolation of the Gospel of Christ in the time of their affliction; and as the individuals for whose benefit the institution is designed may belong to any of the various sections of the Protestant Church in the United Kingdom, the institution is based on a broad religious basis in regard to its management and membership, so as to embrace all who profess to hold evangelical doctrines. The weekly payment of a guinea covers all expenses except the laundress. When two ladies occupy the same apartment the charge for each is 17*s.* 6*d.*, and when two members of one family apply for admission

the charge may be reduced to 15*s*. each. There is a numerous committee of ladies and gentlemen, a chaplain, and a good staff of hon. physicians and surgeons. The hon. treasurer is Miss Baldwin, and the hon. secretaries are Mr. C. Pannel and Mr. W. Lavers. Dr. Radclyffe Hall has from the first been one of the trustees, and is an honorary consulting physician. Sir L. Palk gives the ground rent.

PAROCHIAL CHARITIES.

*GIFTS OF BALL AND OTHERS.**

An entry in the book of the overseers of the poor, dated in 1761, and subscribed by two churchwardens, one overseer, and two others, states that there had been a sum of £24 given to be lent out at yearly interest for the benefit of the poor of this parish for ever, the donor and the time of the gift being uncertain, but that the interest had been distributed yearly to the poor, and that since the money was first lodged in the hands of the parishioners £12 of it was unfortunately placed in hands insufficient for paying the principal, so that there remained £12 only, the sum of £5 of which was in the hands of the Rev. James Salter of St. Mary-Church, and the remainder was in the parish chest useless, and that the persons whose hands were subscribed thereto agreed with the churchwardens and overseers that the said sum of £7 might be made use of by the overseers for the ensuing year, for the use of the poor and other necessaries, provided they would omit collecting any money from the parish till near to Easter then next, unless with the consent of the parishioners, and that the interest of the £7 should be given yearly at Easter to the poor out of the parish stock, and that the £7 should remain whole and entire, and be left

* The Report of the Commissioners Concerning Charities, containing that Part which Relates to the County of Devon. Vol. II. Pub. by T. Besley, Exeter, 1828.

at the discretion of the officers and parishioners for the time to come, as they might think proper.

It further appears from the overseer's book that in 1769 the sum of 5*s*., as the interest of £5 in the hands of the Rev. James Salter, was distributed in bread; that in 1761 5*s*., as the interest of £5, and 7*s*., as the interest of £7 in the parish chest, were distributed in bread. In 1762 the overseers gave credit for £7, money in the parish chest. In 1766 Mr. Salter paid to the overseers the £5 which had been in his hands, and from that time the annual sum of 12*s*. appears to have been distributed among the poor in sums of 1*s*. 6*d*., 1*s*., or 6*d*., to each, and to have been entered in the overseers' accounts as "poors' money," until 1807. During that interval the names of the poor to whom it was distributed are also mentioned. From 1807 to 1815 the sum of 12*s*. is charged in the overseers' accounts as interest of the poor money, but the particulars of the distribution do not appear; no entry with respect to it appears after 1815; no reason has been given for the discontinuance of this payment, but the commissioners were informed that it would be resumed.

The returns made to Parliament in 1786 state that Robert Ball gave £5 to this parish in 1731, which probably formed a part of the sum stated above to have been in the hands of the parish.

BAKER'S GIFT.

George Baker, by will dated the 10th of February, 1794, and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 22nd of February, 1800, gave the sum of £500 for the benefit of the poor of this parish. That portion of the will which relates to the bequest is as follows:—

"I give and devise to the ministers, churchwardens, and parishioners (of which my nephew William Baker shall in this case be considered as one, and have a voice, if he shall be so inclined, in common with the rest) of my native parish of Tormoham, bordering on the northern part of Torbay, on the south coast of the county of Devon, Five Hundred

Pounds, in trust, to be disposed of and applied by them to and for the relief, use, benefit, or advantage, of such of the poor parishioners of the said parish, and to such particular poor persons, and in such particular manner and portions as they in their conscientious discretion may think will best answer the purpose and intention of this my bequest, and which is simply to relieve or alleviate, in as much as it may, the various miseries, distresses, or wants, of the sick, infirm, aged, indigent, or otherwise afflicted or unhappy, of any age, sex, or religion, in proportion, or as near as may be, to their respective uncomfortable condition, either by an immediate and total distribution and disposal of the whole, or to reserve, lay out, or otherwise apply or employ for what time they may think proper, any part or the whole thereof in such manner as by the Act of Mortmain or otherwise they lawfully may, and as they in their consciences may think best consistent with the laws of the land, for the benefit of the present unhappy poor, or for the relief of those of this parish whose unhappy situation may in future render them fit objects to partake of it."

The sum produced by the above legacy, after deducting the duty, was expended in the purchase of £468 8*s*. 6*d*. stock in the Navy Five per Cents., in the names of trustees. At the time of the enquiry by the Commissioners this sum produced yearly rather more than £23 8*s*.

The fund is at present invested in the Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., being £491 16*s*. 11*d*.

The donor of this gift, George Baker, was born at Tormoham in 1721. He entered the naval service of the East India Company, and eventually obtained command of one of their ships. After serving many years, he retired and settled at Madras. The water supply of that town being very indifferent, Mr. Baker submitted a plan to the Company by which it might be better provided. The scheme, however, was considered impracticable. Mr. Baker, undeterred by the rejection of his plans, brought in the water at his own expense. The wells, for years afterwards, were known as Baker's Wells: they were subsequently sold to the East India Company. The following is the inscription on his monument in the parish church of Tor:—

"To the memory of George Baker, Esq., who, after a life devoted to the public service and to private acts of beneficence, died at Madras, in

the East Indies, July 9th, 1799, aged 78 years. His benevolence and charity ceased not with his life; amidst various and liberal bequests to the indigent and distressed, he distinguished by a legacy of £500 this his native parish. His nephew, William Baker, caused this marble to be erected in token of his veneration and affectionate regard."

THOMAS KINGSLEY'S GIFT.

Thomas Kingsley, by will, dated in April, 1817, gave £50 to the poor of this parish, to be distributed at the discretion of the minister and churchwardens among such poor persons of the parish as might be considered proper objects of charity.

Upon the testator's death the legacy was paid into the hands of the vicar, and was afterwards applied by the parish towards the payment of £300 which had been borrowed for fitting up a work-house. An entry in the order book of the parish, which is dated 23rd of December, 1819, and is signed Robert Abraham, for Sir Lawrence Palk, Bart., and John Prowse, and four others, states these facts; and that it was declared that the principal should be paid when demanded; that in the meantime the interest at five per cent. should be distributed to the poor of the parish, according to the intention of the donor, and that the poor rates and all the property of the churchwardens and overseers of Tormoham should be charged with the payment of the principal and interest.

The sum of £50 has since been invested.

At Christmas, 1876, the proceeds from the above charities were as follows: Baker's interest, £14 8*s.*; Kingsley's interest, £2 10*s.*; total, £16 18*s.*

The money was apportioned as follows: Tor parish, £3 6*s.*; St. Luke's, £3 12*s.*; Upton, £3 10*s.*; Ellacombe, £2 18*s.* 6*d.*; St. John's, £2 10*s.* 6*d.*; Torwood, £1 1*s.*; total, £16 18*s.* An account of the distribution, together with the names of the recipients, are kept by the churchwardens.

By the will of George Cary, of Torre Abbey, dated February 21st, 1746, the sum of £100 was bequeathed to the poor of Tormoham, but the parish records do not show what has become of it.

There are several charities connected with the churches and chapels, which are managed by the ministers, assisted by district visitors and committees.

THE MENDICITY SOCIETY.

The Torquay Mendicity Society was formed in December, 1872; its object is the suppression of professional vagrancy, and in this it is most successful. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. C. N. Luxmoore. James Pratt is the Mendicity Officer. All applications for relief are promptly enquired into, and real cases of distress are relieved. Several attempts have been made to bring all the various charitable societies under one organization, but every one has failed.

THE MISSION HOUSE.

The Mission House in Market Street was founded by Miss H. V. Mansfield, by whom the foundation stone was laid on the 4th of March, 1867; it was opened the year following. A variety of philanthrophic objects are here carried on, chiefly for the benefit of the inhabitants of the district of Ellacombe. The upper room is used for missionary meetings, lectures, &c. The Mission House is also the head-quarters of the Torquay Bible Women's Society, Mothers' Meetings, and other parochial agencies. The lower rooms are fitted up as kitchens, where soups, dinners, &c., are provided for the infirm and invalid poor.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS.

THE TORQUAY MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

Torquay has had two Mechanics' Institutes. The first, established about 1828, was opened with a lecture by the late Sir L. V. Palk, Bart., M.P., in a large room long known as "The Billiard Room," in Park Lane. At the commencement of the lecture session in the autumn of 1837 it was announced by the chairman that lectures would be discontinued at the end of that year, but that the Institute would not be closed so long as sufficient subscriptions were received from members desirous of availing themselves of the valuable library. In consequence of this announcement, Mr. Pengelly suggested to a few other members the formation of a "Torquay Young Men's Society" for reading and discussing essays on questions previously agreed on; and on the 22nd November, 1837, such a Society was founded. Its meetings were held in Mr Pengelly's school room, adjacent to the Royal Hotel, until 20th July, 1842, when they were transferred to the new school room he had just had built in Braddons Hill Road West (now the offices of the *Torquay Directory*), and about the same time the Society took the name of "The Torquay Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge." In 1839 the first Mechanics' Institute was finally closed. Its library was divided amongst its proprietary members, some of whom gave, and others sold, their shares to the new body, which also purchased the book-case. In 1846, "The Torquay Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge" again changed its name, and became thenceforward "The Torquay Mechanics' Institute."* In 1850, the Institute was remodelled, and on

* In the *Directory* of Dec. 5th, 1845, last page, there is an article on "The Torquay Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge," which closes with—"We would recommend the alteration of the name to 'Mechanics' Institute,' as requiring less explanation than the present" It is first entitled "Mechanics' Institute" in the *Directory* of October 9th, 1846.

the completion of the British Schools it was removed there, the lower room being better adapted for lecturing purposes, In its time the Institute did a good work, and many persons who have improved their condition in life have acknowledged their indebtedness to it; but latterly the mechanic element among the members visibly diminished, owing in a great measure to a depression in the building trade. Those who remained consisted mostly of young shop-people, by whom scientific subjects were voted very slow. Often a brilliant scientific lecture which cost the committee a considerable sum was attended by little over a dozen persons, while a humorous *melange* would draw a good audience. The committee did not feel warranted in encouraging this taste for the broad comic, considering it to be incompatible with the objects of the institution; and so matters went on from year to year, with a constantly increasing debt. The executive were always adverse to making a "poverty appeal" to the public, holding the opinion that if a Mechanics' Institute was worth maintaining, it ought to be self-supporting. But at length, as the committee were "ashamed to beg," they took the only course open to them—of convening a public meeting to ascertain whether the inhabitants were in favour of the Institute being continued. That meeting declared in favour of its being maintained. But, notwithstanding this, affairs grew worse, and the dissolution of the Institute was forced upon the executive, greatly against their inclination. The crash came at last. The Institute was wound up in 1868, and the library was sold in order to meet the liabilities. The subscription was 10*s.* per annum, but, as a rule, the members took tickets for the two winter quarters only, practically reducing the membership to 5*s.* a year. Mr. W. Pengelly was President almost from the commencement, and session after session delivered lectures on various branches of science, refusing to accept any acknowledgment for his invaluable services. On the 25th March, 1857, the members presented Mr. Pengelly with a set of the *Britannica Encyclopædia*.

THE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

The Torquay Working Men's Improvement Society was established at a meeting presided over by Mr. E. Vivian in October, 1857. It was opened on the 2nd of November, and had on its books more than a hundred working men as members. The subscription was 1*s.* per quarter. Mr. Palk, M.P., was the president, and the Rev. Dr. Harris and the Rev. R. R. Wolfe vice-presidents. The Temperance Hall, now used as a printing office by Mr. J. Blackmore, was fitted up as a reading-room, and was abundantly supplied with newspapers and periodicals. The Bishop of Exeter made a handsome addition to its small library. Arrangements were made by which the members could have tea and coffee in the room at a nominal price. In December, 1857, an application was made by Mr. Vivian, Mr. W. Hearder, and others, for the use of a room in the Town Hall for the purposes of the Society, but it was refused. Mr. L. Palk, M.P., offered to assist the Society to a building, and gave the choice of two sites—one in Market Street and the other in Queen Street. By Mr. Palk's directions, Mr. Dick, an architect, prepared plans for a building, the cost of which was estimated at £700, and the fittings at £300. The members, however, speedily fell off, and in 1861 the Society was dissolved.

THE TOR IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY.

The Tor Mutual Improvement Society was commenced on the 26th of May, 1861, at the second house from the National Schools in East Street. The Society was mainly promoted by the clergy and the congregations of Tor and St. Luke's. Lectures were given in the school-room, and a well-ordered and abundantly supplied news-room table was maintained. In 1864 the promoters purchased the house between the Society's premises and the Schools, which for years had been carried on as a beer-house (the

Queen's Arms), with a very dubious character. Improvements were made in the premises, and the Society's rooms were enlarged. After existing five years, the Society was wound up, and the premises have since been used as "Parish Rooms" for carrying on parochial work.

THE TORQUAY WORKING MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The Torquay Working Men's Association was formed in 1860, and is actively supported by the liberality of Miss I. Cartwright and other friends of the working man. The meetings and business of the Society are carried on at the British Workman No. 3, in Market Street, where there is a good reading room for members at one penny per week, with a small miscellaneous library of about 230 books. The Rev. J. A. Jamieson is the President, Mr. T. D. Cross, Librarian, and Mr. W. Winget, Secretary.

THE ATHENÆUM.

The Athenæum was, perhaps, the most short-lived of the literary societies founded in Torquay. It was projected by Mr. A. J. Davy, and was opened on the 10th of January, 1868, in the spacious room over the shop of Mr. Perry, in Fleet Street. It was specially designed as a news-room, and for that purpose was fitted up in a most complete manner. It was open from nine in the morning to ten at night. The institution was well patronised at first, but when the novelty wore off the interest slackened, and it was closed on the 27th of October, 1870.

THE TORQUAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

This Society is the only one that has ever flourished in the town; and as it now possesses a permanent resting place and its affairs are conducted by gentlemen of con-

siderable ability, a prosperous career is still before it. The rise and progress of the Society were fully described by Mr. Guyer in his introductory address, when installed as president in 1875. It was commenced in 1844. In the month of October of that year a meeting was held at the residence of Dr. Battersby; it was attended by sixteen persons, by whom it was agreed to form a Natural History Society, and on the 14th of the same month the rules and regulations were agreed upon. Of those who attended the meeting only three remain, Dr. Battersby, Mr. Pengelly, and Mr. Vivian. In 1845 the meetings were held at No. 5 Higher Terrace, where a museum and lecture room were provided. In a few years it was removed to larger premises at the back of the Commercial Hotel, and subsequently to the Freemasons' Hall. The first lecture was delivered by Mr. Vivian on the 3rd of December, 1844, in the ball room of the Royal Hotel, the subject being "The Study of Natural History." A library, weekly lectures, a museum, and monthly evening meetings, were the agencies employed by the Society for promoting the study of Natural History. The late Mr. Stewart read the first evening paper in the year 1844, the subject being "Botany." The library of the Society was established at the first meeting, and consists chiefly of standard works of literature and scientific subjects. It now contains over two thousand volumes, besides periodicals. Since the year 1853 nearly six thousand visitors have paid entrance fees to the museum, the contents of which are entirely Devonian. In 1871 measures were taken for erecting a more suitable building. The ground on which the new premises stand on the Babbacombe Road was given by Mr. Cary and the Messrs. J. T. and W. Harvey. The designs were furnished by Mr. W. Harvey, jun., architect, and the foundation stone was laid in 1874 by the Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing, the President. It may be premised that the structure which now meets the prospect of those who pass along the Babbacombe Road is only one portion of the original design, and hereafter, as the Society gathers to itself this world's riches, additions will be

made. The portion of building at present erected consists, on the ground floor, of a reading room, 34ft. by 28ft., a library, 28ft. by 16ft., and a committee room; the entrance hall, 10ft. wide, paved with encaustic tiles, leads to the grand staircase, 24ft. by 21ft.; the steps are of Portland stone, the central flight being 7ft. in width, and the side flights 5ft. The first floor is entirely occupied by the museum, a room 68ft. long by 34ft. wide, having an open timbered roof and lantern light; the height of this room from floor to ridge of lantern light is 42ft., the wall space being 24ft. in height. This provides for a gallery, which it is intended eventually to carry round the four sides: this room is lighted by eighteen windows and lantern light in roof, the whole of the light thus obtained being vertical; the warming and ventilation is provided for by hot water apparatus in the basement, and pipes are carried round behind an open skirting. The style adopted for the design is early Gothic freely treated, and the ornamentation of the building will depend upon the insertion of terra-cotta panels over the windows on the first floor; three of these are already fixed, and sketches for the remainder have been prepared by the late J. Birnie Philip, the sculptor, whose work in the base of the Albert Memorial, Hyde Park, has been much admired; in these panels a new process has been used, namely, the using two clays of a different colour. The portion of building to be erected, as funds permit, will consist of a large lecture theatre, having 200 seats, with professor's rooms, &c., a residence for a curator, and cloak rooms, &c. The first contract was taken by Mr. E. P. Bovey for the sum of £2,797, and about £2,500 more will be required to complete the original design.

The members have on several occasions acknowledged the eminent services of their Honorary Secretary, Mr. W. Pengelly, F.R.S., F.G.S., &c.

THE TORQUAY SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE AND ART.

The proposal to establish a School of Art in Torquay was enunciated at a public meeting held on the 1st of November, 1864, and was more successful than the attempt made some years previously by Mr. Minton and Mr. J. Sivewright. The school was opened in the building which had been occupied as a chapel by Mr. Stark and his friends, and to the Art classes were subsequently added Science classes. The pupils have made marked progress, and invariably stand high in the South Kensington examinations. Mr. E. Vivian is the President, Mr. Sydney Morrish and Mr. Bedford Art Masters, Mr. D. W. R. Buchanan, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. T. Viccars Science Master.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS.

The Torquay Directory is the oldest newspaper in the town. It was commenced by the late Mr. Edward Cockrem, of the Strand, in 1840, and first appeared as four pages crown octavo; it contained the names of visitors and residents; subsequently it contained a few advertisements, on each of which a Government tax of half-a-crown was paid; and the arrivals and departures of the stage coaches. In 1846 it was enlarged to eight pages royal quarto size, and contained a plan of the town. It then gave news, besides a directory list. It thus came within the definition of a newspaper, and accordingly bore the fiscal impress, a red stamp on each sheet, which cost a penny. It has been enlarged from time to time, and is now the largest newspaper in the county. After the death of Mr. Cockrem, in 1872, the business was transferred to a Company. In politics, both imperial and local, the *Directory* is neutral, but the utmost latitude is permitted to correspondents.

The Visitors' Guide, eight pages fcap. quarto, was started in 1849, by Mr. R. Wreford, of Torwood Street, who had served an apprenticeship with Mr. Cockrem. The *Guide* contained a list of visitors, a correspondence column, and advertisements. It had a run of about twelve months and then ceased.

The Torquay Chronicle was established by Mr. William Elliott, bookseller, No. 1 Vaughan Parade (now the Bank), in 1849. Like the former, the size was eight pages fcap. quarto. It at first contained a list of visitors and residents alphabetically arranged. The defect of this plan was that in the case of three or more persons of different names being in one house, each appeared in a different column. In 1850 the paper was enlarged to a crown folio, and the arrangement of the directory list was altered. In its enlarged form the *Chronicle* published local news. In 1854 the paper was purchased by Mr. W. N. Peckins and Mr. R. C. Wilkinson, and the printing office was removed from George Street to premises next to Smale's horticultural depôt. After Mr. Wilkinson's withdrawal from the undertaking, Mr. John Wakeham entered into partnership with Mr. Peckins. On the bankruptcy of the latter, Mr. Wakeham purchased his share, but in the course of two years sold the newspaper and printing business to Mr. Henry Powlson, of Birmingham, who afterwards sold it to a Company.

The Torquay Recorder, published by Mr. John Robinson, was commenced in 1861. In size it was crown, and contained lists of residents, &c. Its columns were liberally open to the ventilation of grievances, whether real or imaginary, by the Free Lances of Torquay. *The Recorder* suspended publication several times, and its career ceased in 1867.

The Torquay Times was established in 1865 by a Company, who bought up the *Torquay Chronicle* and printing

business. *The Torquay Times* was brought out as a full-sized newspaper, giving a list of visitors and residents, and all the local news. The Company was subsequently dissolved, and the business passed into the hands of Mr. Martin Fradd, under whose management it is now conducted. *The Torquay Times* is Liberal in politics, and freely criticises whatever local matters of interest may be before the public.

The Gridiron, a smartly-written satirical paper, demy quarto in size, printed and published by Mr. Jas. Matthews, was commenced June 7th, 1873, and the last number was dated "December 25th," the same year. Many of the articles were very racy, witty, and cleverly written.

The Last Vials was a monthly tract, crown octavo, written by the late Rev. R. Purdon, who commenced its publication in 1848, and continued it to within a few months of his death in 1874. The author was a beneficed clergyman, and possessed great scholarly attainments. He differed from the views of Newton, Fleming, Elliot, and other modern interpreters of prophecy, and endeavoured to identify the great political changes which have occurred in Europe in recent times with the Scriptural forecast. In some of his papers, especially where he endeavoured to show that Napoleon III. was the Little Horn of the Beast, he trenched further into the domain of politics than was wise. These tracts were eagerly sought for in Paris during the Presidency and the first years of the reign of the Third Napoleon, but their admission was prohibited. They were, nevertheless, smuggled into France, and in a certain quarter of Paris nightly meetings were held, at which *The Last Vials* were read. It may here be added that *The Last Vials* were in great request among the people of the United States, where they were regularly reprinted. They were first printed and published by Mr. W. Elliott, afterwards by Mr. L. Seeley, and lastly by Mr. J. Robinson.

to be there used fo
raising the sewage
station, whence it
fatal to its adoptio
consulted, recomm
proposition for ta
was endorsed subs
Nankivell also propo
fall at Daddy Hol
was crushed by a po
Town Surveyor,
Sir Joseph Bazal
adopted by the au
an estimated cost
undertaking will be

The 20th of Feb
in common with ot
the restoration of
was a dinner at
which loyal addre
ball. In addition
scription, and pro
Dispensary as a th

The comparativ
fires of any great
night of Monday, th
Fleet Street, at the
wholly destroyed,
adjoining premises
sustained great dam
trimming a benzolin
benzoline ignited,
oils on the premis
until the house in w

erintendent, and the Committee pay the
ere is a night school connected with the
the experiment of a Home for boys is now
small scale. The premises are situated on
. The Superintendent is Mr. Newton, and
k, who acted as Hon. Secretary from the
resigned in January, 1878. Owing to the
tions for admission made on behalf of
orts were made early in 1878 to establish
me upon a more extended scale, as the
s were insufficient to accommodate more
already in the Home.

ORBAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

y Horticultural Society was formed in 1843;
first year 89 members, and an income of
The first public exhibition took place on
ay, 1846. The exhibition was formerly held
in the Public Gardens; for many years past,
two exceptions, they have been held at Rock
spring shows are held at the Bath Saloon.
has been the President from the commence-
W. Fane Tucker is the Hon. Secretary.

THE TORQUAY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

rquay Medical Society has been in existence for
, in various forms, and mainly with the view of
those members of the profession who are re-
the neighbourhood, of promoting professional
establishing a large medical library, which
Infirmary, and belongs to the Society. The
Secretary is held by Mr. P. Q. Karkeek.

SOCIETIES.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

The Temperance Society was established in 1843, on total abstinence principles, having taken the place of a society in which entire abstinence was not a necessary qualification for membership. Mr. E. Vivian acted as President up to within the last few years. The cause of temperance has been greatly advanced by the formation of Bands of Hope, Good Templar Lodges, Local Branches of the Church of England Temperance Societies, and Parochial Temperance Guilds.

BRITISH WORKMEN PUBLIC HOUSES.

Mr. Fox, Colonel Bewes, Mr. E. Vivian, and other gentlemen, were the means of establishing British Workmen Public Houses, where refreshments of all kinds can be had, but no intoxicating liquors. The first was opened at the head of Union Street, on November 11th, 1872, and in a few years after a second was opened at the end of Vaughan Parade, for the benefit of the fishermen and sailors; and a third has also been opened in Market Street, near the Sessions House. All three are very useful institutions, and pay their own expenses.

THE TORQUAY ERRAND BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association was established in 1870, for the purpose of giving employment to lads who are out of a situation. During certain hours in the day they are sent to the houses of subscribers or others who require their services either for errands or domestic duties, while in the remainder they attend school. The payments for their services are made

direct to the Superintendent, and the Committee pay the boys weekly. There is a night school connected with the Association, and the experiment of a Home for boys is now being tried on a small scale. The premises are situated on the Warren Road. The Superintendent is Mr. Newton, and Mr P. Q. Karkeek, who acted as Hon. Secretary from the commencement, resigned in January, 1878. Owing to the repeated applications for admission made on behalf of orphan boys, efforts were made early in 1878 to establish the Orphan Home upon a more extended scale, as the existing premises were insufficient to accommodate more than the seven already in the Home.

THE TORBAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Torbay Horticultural Society was formed in 1843; it had in the first year 89 members, and an income of £144 11*s.* 2*d.* The first public exhibition took place on the 21st of May, 1846. The exhibition was formerly held in a marquee in the Public Gardens; for many years past, with one or two exceptions, they have been held at Rock End. The spring shows are held at the Bath Saloon. Mr. E. Vivian has been the President from the commencement. Capt. W. Fane Tucker is the Hon. Secretary.

THE TORQUAY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Torquay Medical Society has been in existence for many years, in various forms, and mainly with the view of associating those members of the profession who are residing in the neighbourhood, of promoting professional objects, and of establishing a large medical library, which is kept at the Infirmary, and belongs to the Society. The office of Hon. Secretary is held by Mr. P. Q. Karkeek.

CLUBS.

In 1832 the nearest approach to a club was "Cole's Reading Rooms, Billiard Room, and Circulating Library," which occupied the building next to Messrs. Kitsons' offices, Vaughan Parade. A guide book of the period says, "Promenades are held once a fortnight during the winter at these rooms, and are numerously attended." In 1846, No. 5 Higher Terrace was fitted up as a Club House, and during the work of preparation narrowly escaped destruction by fire, owing to the carelessness of a workman. It was opened in 1847. This Club House was soon closed after the removal of the Torquay Natural History Society from it to other premises.

THE TORBAY AND SOUTH DEVON CLUB.

The Club House at the end of Beacon Terrace was erected by Mr. W. Hearder, as a private speculation, on the site of the coach-house and stabling which belonged to No. 11. It was opened on the 25th of November, 1853, the event being celebrated by a dinner, which was attended by all the leading gentlemen of the place. On the 29th of January, 1863, Frederick Johnson, of London, broke into the building from the rear, and was about to make a survey of the premises, when he was seized by John Thorn, a clerk, who resided on the premises. With the assistance of the billiard marker, the burglar was conveyed to the police station, and was afterwards tried and sentenced to imprisonment. The fellow had, it appeared, been practising his nefarious art in different parts of the country. In October, 1863, the premises were sold to a company of gentlemen, who formed themselves into a club, known as the Torbay and South Devon Club. Mr. Aspland is the manager, and Mr. R. Kitson the Hon. Secretary.

THE VICTORIA CLUB.

The Victoria Club, a fine range of buildings on Victoria Parade, was founded by Mr. W. Hearder, his object being to provide the trading and commercial classes with suitable rooms where they might meet together either for business or recreation. The Club was opened November 18th, 1859, and contains two large billiard rooms, a splendid racquet court, news rooms, and various other apartments. The regatta committee hold their meetings and transact business at this Club. Mr. Day is the manager.

THE MANOR CLUB.

This Club was opened in the early part of 1877, in rooms over the stores on the new quay. It was designed for the convenience of the trading classes, and has good reading and billiard rooms. Mr. Sydney Smith is the Hon. Secretary.

THE TORQUAY CRICKET CLUB.

For the formation of the Torquay Cricket Club, the providing of suitable grounds, and the erection of a pavilion, the inhabitants of the town are indebted to the exertions of Mr. W. H. Kitson and Mr. John Kitson, who in their time were enthusiastic cricketers. The first nucleus of a club was formed in 1848, when the matches were played on Windmill Hill. The Club was formally established and placed on a firm basis in 1851. By the kindness of Sir L. Palk, the ground now used by the Club was granted at a nominal rent, and on the 20th of May, 1852, the Rev. R. R. Wolfe cut the first sod as a preliminary to putting the ground in suitable order. On the 19th of July the grounds were opened. On the 22nd of August, 1853, a

grand match was played between an Eleven of All England and Twenty-two of Devon. The former won in one innings, the score being 172. The Twenty-two made 106 in the first innings, and 54 in the second. The Pavilion has been greatly enlarged since it was first built, and contains a dancing room, an American bowling alley, and various rooms for the accommodation of the members. The Torquay Week is a great event amongst Devonshire cricketers. The Athletic Sports were instituted January 15th, 1858. On the 5th of November, 1863, the members presented their Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Kitson, with a handsome silver claret cup. Mr. C. W. Kitson is the present Hon. Secretary.

THE ROYAL TORQUAY YACHT CLUB.

This Club was established in 1875, by the efforts of Mr. G. W. King and Mr. B. Engel, the former of whom is the Hon. Sec. and the latter the Treasurer. The Club every year gives some handsome prizes for competition at the Torbay Royal Regatta.

ROWING CLUBS.

The Torquay Rowing Club was formed by Mr. C. N. Luxmoore on the 3rd of May, 1869. It has a fine stock of boats, with which prizes are taken at the various regattas in the neighbourhood. The Prince Imperial of France is Patron of the Club. Hon Sec. and Treasurer, Mr. Sydney Smith.

A second rowing club was established in 1874 as the Torbay Amateur Boating Club, but as this name clashed with the Torquay Rowing Club it was altered to the Leander Rowing Club in 1876. Hon. Sec., Mr. T. D. Simes. The Club possesses several good boats; both Clubs having rowing matches during the summer.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

THE FREEMASONS.

A body of Freemasons existed in Torquay in 1828, but later on it appears to have sunk to a low ebb, for in 1846 it underwent a resuscitation, from which date the Lodge of St. John's began to flourish. On the 28th of May, 1857, the foundation stone of the Freemasons' Hall, in Park Street, was laid with great ceremony, and was attended by several hundred of the brethren from all parts of the county. The Lodge consists of two large rooms. On the ground floor is a committee room, large entrance hall, staircase, and offices; and over these is the Lodge room. The peculiar shape of the site, being triangular, running off to a sharp point, gave rise to the apsidal form of the west end. The style adopted is the mediæval; the front elevation presents a row of dormer windows of double lights, separated by columns. This is considered a very successful attempt at introducing differently coloured stones in the construction. The building was formally opened on the 16th of February, 1858. Present W.M., Benjamin Fulwood.

According to the documents in possession of the officers, the Lodge now known as St. John's, No. 328, was founded in Torquay in 1810, the warrant for which is dated March 8th, 1810. The original warrant, No. 616, was granted to a Lodge held in the "Sportsman," Carnarvon, dated Dec. 25th, 1786. By the alteration of numbers in 1792, it became No. 494. At the Union, in 1813, the (St. John's) Lodge became No. 623; in 1832 the number was changed to 411, and at the closing up of numbers in 1863 it became 328, as at present. Prior to 1819 the Lodge had no distinguishing name, but about that time it took the name of St. John's Lodge.

THE JORDAN LODGE, No. 1,402 on the registry of the Grand Lodge of England, was consecrated at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Devon in the Bath Saloon, August 22nd, 1872, when Bro. Thos. Perry, B.A., (now Provincial Grand Treasurer,) was duly installed as the first Master, Bro. J. Chapman and Bro. James Murray being the first Wardens. The Lodge meets at the Masonic Hall on the second Tuesday in each month, at seven p.m. Present W.M., Walter Bradnee.

There is a Lodge of Instruction attached to the Jordan, which meets at 36 Fleet Street, on the fourth Tuesday, at seven p.m. The Worshipful Precentor is V.W. Bro. T. Perry, P.G.T.

THE ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 328, is attached to the Lodge of St. John. It was consecrated in May, 1872, Ex-Comp. the Rev. Robert Bowden being the first Principal, with Ex-Comp. Dr. Hopkins and Ex-Comp. T. Oliver in the second and third chairs. The Chapter meets about the third Thursday in February, May, August, and November, at the Masonic Hall, at five p.m. Present Principals are Ex-Comp. J. Murray, Z., Ex-Comp. W. E. Warren, H., and Ex-Comp. Bro. J. Pascoe, J.

THE MANCHESTER RATIONAL SICK AND BURIAL ASSOCIATION established a branch in Torquay on the 21st of January, 1847, with twelve members. There are now five branches, with an aggregate number of 990 members.

THE LOYAL CARY LODGE OF ODD FELLOWS, MANCHESTER UNITY, was established in 1856; there are now enrolled 256 members, with a capital of £2,582 11*s.* 2*d.*; and surplus at valuation in 1875 of £1,368 5*s.* 9d. Secretary, Mr. T. Taylor.

THE LOYAL PALK LODGE OF ODD FELLOWS, MANCHESTER UNITY, was established in 1863; there are now enrolled 69

members, with a capital of £658 14*s*. 11*d*.; and surplus at valuation in 1875 of £520 4*s*. 3*d*. Secretary, Mr. T. D. Cross.

THE COURT PRIDE OF DEVON (Foresters) was established in 1858, now numbers 180 members, with a capital of about a thousand pounds.

THE COURT SONS OF FREEDOM (Foresters) was formed in 1866, and has 160 members and a capital of £750.

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-EIGHTH.

METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE.



HE earliest and most authentic records of the climate of Torquay may be found in the flora of the district, and the exotic plants cultivated in its gardens. In Blewitt's *Panorama of Torquay*, published A.D. 1832, there is a long list of species which were cultivated in those early days. Of these, the citron* referred to was growing at the Grove, on Park Hill, until 1870; an olive tree was trained on the front of Tor Abbey; and some fine aloes in the grounds of Cove House, near the Imperial Hotel, bloomed after their removal to Rockwood, formerly Woodbine Cottage, a few years afterwards. At Torre a broad-leaved myrtle covered the front of the old Post Office, and as far inland as Edginswell several varieties were growing in great luxuriance in the Vicarage garden, where the late Rev. A. Neck had formed a large collection of rare exotics. Amongst later introductions may be mentioned the *Dracena Australis* at Woodfield, now sixteen feet high, where a blue gum tree, *Eucalyptus globulus*, attained the height of about thirty feet, with olive, camellia, &c. Numerous collections of more recent growth, including the red gum, New Zealand flax, palm, bamboo, &c., &c., are growing freely at Wellswood, Bishopstowe, Rock End, Duncan House, Bemerton, and numerous other gardens.

* This citron was grown for fifteen years at Myrtle Cottage, Abbey Pl the residence of Miss Southcote. It produced fruit 24½ inches in ci ference; and in 1824 two specimens of its fruit bore off the palm exhibition of the Horticultural Society in Regent Street.

The first meteorological observations made in this district will be found in the same work, commencing A.D. 1829, with quotations from Sir James Clark's work on Climate, first edition. Dr. Barry, a few years afterwards, published some more extended tables, and in the third edition of Sir James Clark's work Mr. E. Vivian's observations are given, which have appeared *in extenso* in the *Torquay Directory* from 1847 to the present date. These have formed the basis of papers by him in the *Devonshire Transactions*, and were published by the Registrar-General in his Reports for the decade 1851–60, in conjunction with those from Clifton, Ventnor, Penzance, and other health resorts. The general results are very favourable to Torquay, both in regard to temperature and humidity, great equability being the principal characteristic, owing mainly to its peninsular position and local shelter from cold winds over a large area. The following general results are given in a paper by Mr. Vivian in the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*, vol. 1 :—

Mean summer temperature, and highest extreme,—

Torquay	55°·7	82°	Clifton	55°·2	91°	Ventnor	56°·3	82°
Exeter	56°·5	91°	Oxford	55°·3	90°	Greenwich	56°·0	94°

Mean winter temperature, and lowest extreme,—

Torquay	44°·7	18°	Clifton	41°·3	7°	Ventnor	44°·9	21°
Exeter	43°·8	14°	Oxford	41°·2	16°	Greenwich	41°·4	8°

Mean daily range of temperature,—

Torquay	9°·8	Clifton	13°·4	Ventnor	9°·2
Exeter	14°·6	Oxford	14°·2	Greenwich	16°·3

Annual amount of rain in inches, and the number of days on which it fell,—

	in.	days.		in.	days.		in.	days.
Torquay	28·9	154	Clifton	29·3	181	Ventnor	27·7	152
Exeter	27·3	185	Oxford	25·5	153	Greenwich	22·2	147

Actual and sensible humidity, or the number of grains of aqueous vapour in a cubic foot of air, and the amount required to produce saturation,—

Torquay	3·5,	0·8	Clifton	3·1	0·6	Ventnor	3·4	0·6
Exeter	3·4,	0·8	Oxford	3·4	0·6	Greenwich	3·3	1·0

...ll, as noted above, was collected in a gauge ... Woodfield, and amounts to about four-fifths ... has since been measured near the ground, ... the rainfall in the other localities was also taken at ... point, it is sufficiently accurate for comparative purposes.

The vital statistics in regard to longevity and health are also given from the same authorities in Blewitt's Panorama, and the Guide to D... ...y, A.D. 1841. The following summary is especially ... able as founded on the original records in the Parish ... isters, before Torquay had become a town, and the ... rious condition of the village more nearly represented ... es of the present villa residences:—

"The annual mortality of the Newton Union, in which Torquay is situated, is stated to have been about one-eleventh below the average of Devonshire, one-ninth below the average of the five western counties, and nearly a quarter below the general average of England and Wales. Deaths from diseases of the liver and digestive organs, to which the climate of Torquay has been sometimes thought to be unfavourable, were less in this district in the proportion of 8 to 13, and those from consumption (including strangers) in the proportion of 28 to 30, as compared with the same general average. In regard to longevity of its inhabitants, the county of Devon was inferior only to Cumberland, and above the general average of England and Wales in the proportion of 300 to 290."

The following Tables of the highest and lowest degrees of temperature registered at Woodfield during the last twenty-seven years, and the differences between Torquay and Kew, shew the superiority of this climate over that of the inland counties both in winter and summer down to the present year:—

Year.	Highest Extreme.	Lowest Extreme.	Means.
	°	°	°
1851	75	32	53·5
1852	81	32	56·5
1853	75	24	49·5
1854	75	20	47·5
1855	76	18	47·0
1856	79	28	53·5
1857	78	26	52·0
1858	78	34	56·0
1859	82	21	51·5
1860	74	32	53·0
1861	74	28	51·0
1862	70	32	51·0
1863	75	32	53·5
1864	64	24	49·0
1865	75	26	50·5
1866	78	30	54·0
1867	76	22	49·0
1868	79	25	52·0
1869	77	33	55·0
1870	82	23	52·5
1871	78	27	52·5
1872	78	32	55·0
1873	75	32	53·5
1874	79	30	54·5
1875	78	28	53·0
1876	84	25	54·5
1877	74	32	53·0

The following Tables give for the two mid-winter and the two mid-summer months of the year 1876–7 the highest and lowest degrees of temperature at Torquay and the Observatory at Kew, near London :—

1876.	Torquay.		Kew.	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
Dec. 1	57°	53°	54°	44°
2	59	53	55	51
3	56	48	55	50
4	55	48	52	48
5	54	49	51	48
6	54	49	52	44
7	51	48	49	44
8	53	42	49	41
9	51	45	47	36
10	52	47	46	42
11	53	50	46	40
12	54	42	46	42
13	52	48	43	34
14	57	48	44	34
15	54	47	44	41
16	54	50	44	38
17	53	44	45	42
18	55	42	46	40

1877	Torquay.		Kew.	
	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
Jan. 1	53°	40°	53°	48°
2	53	39	44	36
3	56	52	50	38
4	57	46	50	47
5	52	44	51	45
6	54	45	50	41
7	53	48	51	45
8	54	50	50	46
9	54	47	52	47
10	51	41	47	38
11	43	38	45	37
12	44	37	38	30
13	59	47	41	36
14	57	40	49	39
15	54	40	43	39
16	53	46	50	39
17	57	43	50	44
18	55	50	50	36

1876	Torquay. Max.	Min.	Kew. Max.	Min.
Dec. 19	49°	43°	45°	40°
20	53	39	46	41
21	47	38	44	34
22	49	35	40	29
23	49	34	38	27
24	48	36	35	32
25	48	37	36	33
26	54	41	35	32
27	56	50	54	35
28	57	52	54	50
29	56	50	53	49
30	56	52	53	46
31	55	47	54	50
June 1	58	54	57	51
2	60	53	57	52
3	68	56	77	45
4	68	54	80	52
5	65	53	65	52
6	60	55	63	46
7	61	54	67	45
8	68	54	72	47
9	64	53	75	54
10	67	53	74	54
11	73	57	81	52
12	70	61	75	58
13	65	59	63	55
14	69	60	66	46
15	72	58	70	52
16	74	58	74	51
17	76	60	75	54
18	71	60	80	54
19	73	62	78	53
20	76	62	75	58
21	67	69	74	51
22	68	49	69	58
23	66	52	64	52
24	68	57	66	46
25	70	57	65	46
26	66	60	67	51
27	73	55	68	55
28	72	62	75	49
29	73	57	79	55
30	71	57	75	54

1877	Torquay. Max.	Min.	Kew. Max.	Min.
Jan. 19	56°	44°	55°	48°
20	59	33	48	33
21	55	42	46	27
22	51	47	42	28
23	51	42	45	27
24	58	45	45	34
25	53	41	50	34
26	50	43	42	34
27	54	43	46	30
28	53	36	50	34
29	51	36	49	35
30	49	42	49	36
31	51	43	44	35
July 1	68	53	64	57
2	69	53	69	53
3	70	55	67	50
4	67	51	70	54
5	66	51	64	49
6	66	51	63	47
7	65	51	64	45
8	67	51	60	44
9	66	54	68	48
10	68	55	75	58
11	70	52	71	53
12	71	56	73	50
13	67	61	71	51
14	68	56	67	60
15	68	58	66	56
16	66	59	62	54
17	63	54	61	55
18	65	59	64	52
19	66	56	69	56
20	65	53	65	54
21	68	58	68	48
22	67	61	66	53
23	68	57	68	59
24	65	56	68	55
25	65	60	68	53
26	69	66	71	56
27	72	57	71	53
28	72	60	65	52
29	76	58	76	59
30	75	54	81	57
31	71	64	82	56

In the following works the climate of Torquay is fully dealt with: Dr. Shapter's *Climate of South Devon;* Dr. Radclyffe Hall's *Torquay in its Medical Aspect;* and *Is Torquay Relaxing?* Dr. Spencer Thompson's *Torquay Past and Present;* and Mr. Vivian's papers on *The Meteorology of Torquay.*

CHAPTER THE TWENTY-NINTH.

KENT'S CAVERN.

THE subject of Kent's Cavern has been so exhaustively treated by Mr. MacEnery, Professor Owen, Mr. Pengelly, Mr. Vivian, and others, that it is unnecessary to do more than give a brief sketch, referring those who desire fuller information to the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*, in which Mr. Pengelly, under the title of "The Literature of Kent's Cavern," has published every scrap relating to it that has been brought to light either in manuscript or print.

The cavern is situated about a mile from Torquay, on the road to Ilsham, in a hill of Devonian limestone, and about 200 feet above the level of the sea. The whole circuit of the cavern is about 700 feet, varying in height and breadth from upwards of thirty feet to little more than three feet.

When or how the cavern was first discovered, or to what circumstance it owes its name, there is no evidence whatever—even tradition is silent on these points. Mr. Pengelly says, "It would seem that the cavern was never discovered; in other words, it has always been known. Judging from the objects which were found mixed up with earthy matter on the floor, the cavern was visited in mediæval times, in Saxon times, in Romano-British times, and in pre-Roman times. Objects connected with all these periods have been met with, and therefore it is probable that the cavern has always been known by the dwellers in

the neighbourhood." There are numerous inscriptions in various parts of the cavern; some of them have been partially obliterated by the formation of a film of stalagmite. The earliest legible date is 1571. Among those most easily traced are the following: "William Petre, 1571." "Peter Lemaire, Richard Colby of London, 1615." "John Martyn, 1617." In German characters: "Ambrose Lane Mildred Torkington," to which is added the device of a dome, surmounted by a cross. On a large boss of stalagmite there appear the words: "Robert Hedges, of Ireland, Feb. 20, 1668." The letters are slightly glazed over. The earliest known written evidence is contained in a lease of the field over the cavern, granted by the Earl of Londonderry to John Black in 1659, in which it is described as Kent's Hole Close. The next is given by no less a writer than Richardson the novelist, who briefly notices it in "A Tour through the Islands of Great Britain, 1778." He says: "In the parish of Tor is a very remarkable place, called Kent's Hole, not mentioned, as I can find, by the writers on that county, though, perhaps, the greatest curiosity therein." Subsequent writers incidentally referred to the cavern, but it was not until 1824 that anything like an investigation for scientific purposes was made, and then it was undertaken by Mr. C. Northmoore, not so much in the interests of palæontology as to establish a theory that it had been used for Mithratic worship. Mr. Northmoore's examination led to the discovery of a number of fossil bones. In 1825 he again visited Kent's Hole, this time accompanied by the Rev. John MacEnery, the Roman Catholic priest of Tor Abbey, whose subsequent investigations opened up a new phase of geological enquiry. Deeply impressed by the quantity of teeth and bones which he found, Mr. MacEnery communicated the fact to Dr. Buckland, by whom he was strongly urged to continue his researches. Acting upon his advice, Mr. MacEnery made a series of systematic observations—systematic for that time, but not sufficiently exact, perhaps, to be accepted as indisputable evidence by scientific

men. Briefly stated, Mr. MacEnery found four distinct deposits; first, huge blocks of limestone that had from time to time fallen from the roof, and were in most cases cemented together by stalagmite; second, beneath and between these blocks a black mould, consisting mainly of vegetable matter, probably blown in through the entrance; third, below this, a sheet of stalagmite, ranging from a mere film to five feet in thickness; and fourth, still lower, a thick deposit of cave earth. In the uppermost deposit were found the upper jaw of a wild boar, the tusks indicating great magnitude; and near by a barbed spear-head. These relics were invested with a slight crust of stalagmite. A quantity of teeth and bones of various animals was also exhumed. An examination of the black mould brought to light fragments of pottery, calcined bones, flint arrow-heads, and round pieces of slate an inch and a-half in diameter, On the 14th of August, 1829, in searching the surface mould, Mr. MacEnery turned over a large stone, and discovered pieces of pottery, charcoal, human teeth, flint relics, copper ornaments, mountings of tin, two lumps of copper ore, two spear-heads, and the remains of two sepulchral urns—one of which was plain and the other rudely ornamented. Near the entrance to the cavern were found several human bones; the body had been laid nearly in the middle of the entrance lobby, with the head towards the east; the jaws, part of the vertebræ and ribs were tolerably perfect, and appeared to have belonged to a robust adult. A few days later, near the same spot, the explorer was rewarded by finding a cranium and bones belonging to another body, younger than the first. Further patient investigation yielded remains of the mammoth, rhinoceros, horse, ox, gigantic Irish deer, red deer, reindeer, hyæna, wolf, fox, and various species of rodentia. What was esteemed the greatest find of all, however, were teeth of what Mr. MacEnery described as *Ursus cultridens*, but which has since been proved to be the *Machairodus latidens*, belonging to a sub-genus of *Felis*. In 1840 Mr. Godwin

Austin read a paper on "The Bone Caves of Devonshire," before the Geological Society in London, when he described the results of an investigation he had made of Kent's Hole. The conclusion he arrived at was that flint implements "occur in all parts of the cavern and throughout the entire thickness of the clay; and no distinction, founded on the distribution or relative position, can be observed whereby the human can be separated from the other *reliquiæ*."

In 1846 the Torquay Natural History Society appointed a sub-committee for the purpose of making an exploration in a small portion of the cavern, and a paper embodying the results of that enquiry, which confirmed all that had been advanced by previous examiners, was drawn up by Mr. Vivian, a member of the committee, and read in 1847 before the Geological Society in London. The scientific world, however, scouted these discoveries, and declared that such statements were impossible.

In 1858 the results of a systematic and careful exploration of the Brixham Cavern, on the opposite shore of Torbay, induced scientific men to suspect that the alleged discoveries which from time to time during the previous quarter of a century had been reported from Kent's Hole, might, after all, be entitled to a place among the verities of science; and, from that time, various proposals for further investigation were made.* In 1864 the British Association granted a sum of money and appointed a committee for the purpose of exploring Kent's Cavern, and the lord of the manor, Sir L. Palk, gave them every facility by placing the cavern at their entire disposal. The committee consisted of Sir Charles Lyell, Professor Phillips, Sir John Lubbock, Bart., Mr. John Evans, Mr. E. Vivian, and Mr. W. Pengelly. This grant has been renewed every year since; and as the two last-named members of the committee resided in Torquay, the examination of the

* Mr. Pengelly's lecture at Glasgow on "Kent's Cavern: its Testimony to the Antiquity of Man." 1875.

cavern was carried on by careful and experienced workmen under their personal superintendence. It has already been stated that Mr. MacEnery found four distinct deposits: first, blocks of limestone; second, black mould; third, granular stalagmite, five feet thick in places; and fourth, cave-earth. The workmen employed on the new exploration not only confirmed this, but proved much more. Beneath Mr. MacEnery's cave-earth they came upon a fifth deposit —crystalline stalagmite, twelve feet in thickness in one place; below this was a sixth deposit, a bed of cave-eath, with which was incorporated rounded fragments of dark red grit, or sandy paste; this the explorers termed Breccia; the depth of this last deposit has not been ascertained. The objects found in the various deposits were, black mould, stones of various kinds, shells of hazel nuts, shells of snails, limpets, whelks, oysters, cockles, mussels, pectens, solens, and cuttlefish; bones of fish, birds, seal, water rat, rabbit, hare, goat, sheep, red deer, long-fronted ox, brown bear, badger, fox, dog, pig, and man; whetstones; angular and curvilinear pieces of slate; pieces of smelted copper; bronze articles, including rings, a fibula, a spoon, a spear-head, socketed celt, and a pin; a flint "strike-light," numerous potsherds, including a piece of Samian ware; spindle whorls, made of stone of various kinds, and some of them ornamented; a bone awl, a bone chisel, bone combs of the size and somewhat of the shape of shoe-lifters or shoe-horns, with the teeth at the broad end; amber beads; charred wood. In the next deposit of granular stalagmite were found shells of cockles and cuttlefish; remains of bear, hyæna, rhinoceros, horse, fox, and man; charred wood, flint tools, flakes, and "cores"—the latter being the remnants of flint nodules, from which flakes have been detached; and a human jaw, with four teeth in it. Below the stalagmite, and resting on the cave-earth, was a black patch or band, consisting almost exclusively of charcoal. It was without doubt the hearth of the old cave men. In that patch were found the remains of ox, deer, horse, badger, bear, fox, hyæna, and rhinoceros;

366 flint implements, flakes, and chips; a bone awl; a bone needle or bodkin, with a well-formed eye in it; a bone harpoon; burnt bones and burnt wood. In the cave-earth were found teeth and bones of cave lion, wild cat, cave hyæna, wolf, fox, glutton, badger, cave bear, grizzly bear, brown bear, mammoth, *rhinoceros tichorinus*, horse, wild bull, bison, gigantic Irish deer, red deer, reindeer, hare, and *machairodus latidens;* whetstones, a hammer stone, lanceolate and ovate flint tools, flint flakes and cores, a bone pin, two bone harpoons, charred wood, and charred bones. In the next deposit, the crystalline stalagmite, there was nothing found but the bones of bears. The lowest deposit, the Breccia, yielded remains of bear, parts of two jaws, containing teeth of lion; three teeth in part of a jaw of fox; and here in this deposit, older, vastly older, than the cave-earth or the stalagmite with which it was sealed up, were found evidence of man in rude massive flint tools. The conclusion which geologists derive from the foregoing facts is, that man existed in Devonshire (which was probably far away from the cradle of the human race) at a time so remote as to be beyond the power of calculation. For example, the black mould, the upper or more recent of the deposits, represents at least two thousand years—everything below it is still older; the granular stalagmite was of very slow growth; it required 250 years to produce a mere film over the letters which Robert Hedges cut in the face of the boss in 1688. Beneath this is the cave-earth, which must count for something; then there is the floor of crystalline stalagmite, and lastly there is the Breccia, of unknown depth.*

No one should visit the cavern without a guide; several persons have had the temerity to do so, and have invariably lost their way. The earliest known incident of this kind is described by Mr. W. Hyett in his "Ride from Torquay to Newton Bushel," published about the year 1803. He

* Mr. Pengelly's lecture at Glasgow on "Kent's Cavern. its Testimony to the Antiquity of Man." 1875.

says, "Taking the road opposite the quay, we were brought amid undulating hills to Torwood, a fine old building belonging to Sir Lawrence Palk, and standing in a very pleasant situation; about half-a-mile beyond this, a gate, facing the road, opens into a spacious field, the lower part of which (a coppice) contains the celebrated cavern Kent's Hole, the aperture of which is not of any great magnitude, and almost shrouded in brakes. As I was, a few months since, procuring a guide to explore the gloomy recess (I mention the fact as a caution to the unwary) a young naval officer, attended by a labourer with a lantern, tinder box, &c., overtook me, who, accosting me, observed, if I would accompany him, *he hoped to show me a resurrection.* At my entreaty he explained himself by saying that five of his brother officers, belonging to a ship in the bay, had that morning entered the cave without the precaution of taking a guide, and had carried with them a quantity of port fires, the voluminous smoke of which had extinguished the only candle they had; and when the momentary glare was extinguished, they were left almost suffocated with smoke, in total darkness. Having exhausted their strength and patience in fruitless efforts to find the way out of its dreary intricacies, they gave themselves up to despair, when he, having parted from the rest, guided by his good genius, at length emerged into the cheering light of day. Having augmented our guides, we entered the chasm, each with a candle, and cautiously proceeded, as it was remarkably rough, and would scarcely allow sufficient height to stand erect; after a short descent it opens into a sort of hall, more spacious and lofty, the blaze of our lights dissipating enough of the gloom to explore the ponderous jaws of many a horrid orifice on either side; our path now became somewhat smoother, and permitted us to examine the many whimsical petrefactions and incrustations nature had secreted in these cimmerian shades; on the approach of the lights to the roof, innumerable gems sparkled, as it passed with beautiful radiance. After some time, the unfortunate objects of our search answered our repeated shouts, and,

directed by the sound, we found the disconsolates seated round the margin of a limpid pool (whose waters forbad a further disclosure of its secret recesses) almost exhausted with fatigue; but the happy prospect of a release from what they had almost concluded would have been their grave, gave them new animation, and I soon had the pleasure of congratulating them on their return to the world from which they had been more than six hours secluded."

A few years later occurred a similar incident, which was invested with a little of the romantic element. A young naval officer, whose vessel was at anchor in the bay, visited the cavern alone. As several hours elapsed without his return, some alarm was manifested for his safety. The young daughter of a neighbouring farmer hearing of the occurrence took a candle and proceeded in search of the lost officer. Happily she discovered him, and the story goes that he was so grateful to the young lady for rescuing him that he at once offered her his hand and heart. However that may be, a very cordial friendship existed between them, and when serving abroad he regularly corresponded. But suddenly the letter writing on his part ceased, and he was never afterwards heard of in this neighbourhood. It was presumed that he was either killed in battle or drowned.

This brief record of the history of Kent's Cavern would not be complete without stating that in 1857 Mr. J. E. Lee and the late Professor Phillips felt that there should be some public recognition of Mr. Pengelly's services as Hon. Secretary of the Committee, appointed at his suggestion, by the British Association, to explore the cavern. The idea was cordially supported by the Duke of Argyll, the Duke of Somerset, the Duke of Devonshire, the Baroness Burdett Coutts, Sir C. Lyell, Sir W. Tite, and many others, including numerous members of various learned bodies throughout the kingdom; and on the 17th of March, 1874, a very handsome testimonial was presented to Mr. Pengelly, at a meeting in the Freemasons' Hall, Torquay, by Professor Phillips, who came from Oxford for the express purpose.

CHAPTER THE THIRTIETH.

STATISTICS.

THE RATES OF MORTALITY.

Year	No. of Deaths	Year	No. of Deaths
1813	15	1845	182
1814	24	1846	*192
1815	21	1847	200
1816	28	1848	264
1817	19	1849	272
1818	17	1850	222
1819	28	1851	242
1820	28	1852	225
1821	40	1853	228
1822	40	1854	237
1823	31	1855	288
1824	52	1856	236
1825	30	1857	258
1826	34	1858	271
1827	35	1859	276
1828	39	1860	289
1829	46	1861	281
1830	53	1862	310
1831	70	1863	355
1832	100	1864	329
1833	86	1865	403
1834	69	1866	383
1835	51	1867	430
1836	88*	1868	345
1837	105	1869	419
1838	99	1870	473
1839	96	1871	340
1840	129	1872	383
1841	121	1873	356
1842	119	1874	360
1843	139	1875	414
1844	145	1876	429

These figures, it should be understood, refer only to the parish of Torquay, and must not be confounded with the

* Seven of these were drowned from the *Duke of Marlborough*.

Registrar-General's returns for the "sub-district of Torquay." There is a great difference between the two, inasmuch as the returns of the Registrar-General refer to six parishes, having an area of 10,382 acres, with a population of 28,305. This sub-district consists of—

	Acres		Population
Torquay	1,465	.....	21,657
St. Mary-Church	2,590	.....	4,626
Cockington	1,207	.....	188
Kingskerswell.....	1,744	.....	960
Coffinswell	1,126	.....	193
Stoke-in-Teignhead ...	2,230	.....	681
	10,382		28,303

Of the 1,465 acres which comprise Torquay, 1,150 belong to Sir L. Palk, and the remainder to Mr. Cary, of Torre Abbey.

POPULATION.—THE CENSUS RETURNS.

Year.		Population.		Inhabited Houses.
1801	.....	838	.....	143
1811	.....	1,350	.....	253
1821	.....	1,925	.....	308
1831	.....	3,582	.....	551
1841	.....	5,982	.....	926
1851	.....	11,474	.....	1,624
1861	.....	16,419	.....	2,183
1871	.....	21,657	.....	3,071

The return for 1871 exhibits a very marked disparity between the sexes; there were 8,885 males, and 12,772 females.

RATEABLE VALUE.

The annual rateable value of property in Torquay, according to the Poor Rate valuation lists, and other sources when the lists have not been attainable, up to 1854, is as follows: *

Year	£	Year	£
1815	3,516	1844	27,600
1823	4,426	1847	32,055
1839	16,710	1851	32,264
1842	25,009	1854	37,504

* The rateable value for later years is given in another table.

PAUPERISM.

Total number of persons (with their families) relieved in and from Torquay, excluding lunatics in asylums, not separately charged, in the half-years ended—

	In-door	Out-door
Lady-Day, 1867	110	785
,, 1868	125	772
,, 1869	154	924
,, 1870	135	892
,, 1871	147	802
,, 1872	146	846
,, 1873	134	831
,, 1874	95	771
,, 1875	110	655
,, 1876	128	653
,, 1877	123	571

WATER RATE.

Year.	In the Pound.	Year.	In the Pound.
1858	6*d.*	1862	9*d.*
1859	8*d.*	1863	3*d.*
1860	7*d.*	1864	2*d.*
1861	1/1	1865	1½*d.*

THE POOR RATE,

From 1857 to 1877 inclusive.

Date of Rate.	For what Period.	Rateable Value.	In the Pound.	Amount of Rate.
		£	d.	£
1857. Oct. 10	Sep. 29, '57, to Mar. 25, '58	39,182	8	1,307
1858. Apr. 16	Mar. 25, '58, to Sep. 29, '58	39,262	6	981
,, Oct. 14	Sep. 29, '58, to Mar. 25, '59	39,765	5	828
1859. Apr. 10	Mar. 25, '59, to Sep. 29, '59	40,903	8	1,363
,, Oct. 10	Sep. 29, '59, to Mar. 25, '60	42,564	6	1,064
1860. Apr. 10	Mar. 25, '60, to Sep. 29, '60	43,291	6	1,082
,, Oct. 10	Sep. 29, '60, to Mar. 25, '61	43,838	8	1,459
1861. Apr. 2	Mar. 25, '61, to Sep. 29, '61	45,535	8	1,517
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '61, to Mar. 25, '62	47,698	8	1,589
1862. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '62, to Sep. 27, '62	48,454	9	1,816
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '62, to Mar. 25, '63	51,146	10	2,130
1863. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '63, to Sep. 29, '63	51,530	10	2,145
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '63, to Mar. 29, '64	52,798	8	1,754
1864. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '64, to Sep. 29, '64	70,329	8	2,343
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '64, to Mar. 25, '65	72,537	8	2,417
1865. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '65, to Sep. 29, '65	79,574	7	2,319
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '65, to Mar. 25, '66	82,954	7	2,419
1866. Apr. 7	Mar. 25, '66, to Sep. 29. '66	84,737	8	2,825
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '66, to Mar. 25, '67	88,320	10	3,679
1867. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '67, to Sep. 29, '67	90,164	8	3,012
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '67, to Mar. 25, '68	92,158	10	3,839
1868. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '68, to Sep. 29, '68	94,853	10	3,952
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '68, to Mar. 25, '69	97,061	10	4,044
1869. Apr. 8	Mar. 25, '69, to Sep. 29, '69	97,526	10	4,063
,, Oct. 8	Sep. 29, '69, to Mar. 25, '70	98,288	10	4,095
1870. Apr. 23	Mar. 25, '70, to Sep. 29, '70	100,860	10	4,202
,, Oct. 17	Sep. 29, '70, to Mar. 25, '71	102,065	10	4,252
1871. Apr. 29	Mar. 25, '71, to Sep. 29, '71	102,873	8	3,429
,, Dec. 9	Sep. 29, '71, to Mar. 25, '72	103,547	8	3,452
1872. May 13	Mar. 25, '72, to Sep. 29, '72	103,742	9	3,890
,, Oct. 13	Sep. 29, '72, to Mar. 25, '73	104,553	10	4,356
1873. May 14	Mar. 25, '73, to Sep. 29, '73	104,222	9	3,908
,, Oct. 31	Sep. 29, '73, to Mar. 25, '74	104,397	10	4,349
1874. Apr. 25	Mar. 25, '74, to Sep. 29, '74	105,441	9	3,954
,, Oct. 23	Sep. 29, '74, to Mar. 25, '75	106,049	10	4,418
1875. Apr. 17	Mar. 25, '75, to Sep. 29, '75	106,293	9	3,986
,, Oct. 23	Sep. 29, '75, to Mar. 25, '76	107,514	9	4,031
1876. Apr. 21	Mar. 25, '76, to Sep. 29, '76	108,210	8	3,607
,, Oct. 14	Sep. 29, '76, to Mar. 25, '77	109,277	8	3,642
1877. Apr. 14	Mar. 25, '77, to Sep. 29, '77	110,498	8	3,683
,, Oct. 31	Sep. 29, '76, to Mar. 25, '78	111,279	7	3,245

Up to the year 1858 the police were under the control of the local governing body, by whom the cost of their maintenance was defrayed out of the district rates. In

that year the County Constabulary Act came into operation, when the control of the police was transferred to the county, and the cost charged to the Poor Rate.

Prior to 1864 the method pursued for determining the rateable value of property was as follows: From the gross assessment was deducted first one-third, then one-fifth, and the remainder was declared to be the rateable value. For example:—a house of the gross value of £100 per annum was rated at £53 6*s.* 8*d.* In 1864 a new method of assessment was introduced, by which a house of the gross value of £100 is rated at £70; this was equivalent to raising the rateable value 31¼ per cent.

THE PUBLIC DEBT UNDER THE LOCAL AND SANITARY ACTS,

Arranged up to September, 1877.

Date of sanction.	Amount sanctioned.	Term of Years.	Object of Loan.	Actually Borrowed.	Paid off.	Owing.
	£			£	£ *s. d.*	£ *s. d.*
1835	1,000	no limit	Old Watch House	1,000		1,000 0 0
1851	2,000	ditto	New Town Hall	2,000	2,000 0 0	
1866	30,000	50	Fleet St. Improvement			
,,	910	50	Drainage			
,,	3,000	50	Street Improvements			
1868	2,700	50	Ditto and Drainage			
1869	570	30	Ditto Ditto	92,258	3,681 1 3	88,576 18 9
1870	2,345	50	Drainage			
,,	4,141	50	Street Improvements			
1873	1,350	50	Main Drainage			
1874*	48,650	30	Ditto			
1866	4,090	20	Kerbing and Channelling	4,100	1,180 0 0	2,920 0 0
1856	50,000	50	Water Works			
1860	5,000	30	Ditto			
1866	10,000	50	Ditto	73,090	6,395 0 0	66,694 13 1
1871	2,482	50	Ditto			
1874	6,000	30	Ditto			
	£174,238			£172,448	£13,256 1 3	£159,191 11 10

* In October, 1877, the Board obtained power to borrow an additional £20,000, to be repaid in thirty years, to complete the main drainage scheme, and are applying (Feb. 1878) for an additional £21,000 for Waterworks purposes, including the cost of duplicate main from Tottiford to Torquay.

TORQUAY GENERAL DISTRICT RATE,

From 1857 to 1877, inclusive.

Date of Rate.	For what Period.	Rateable Value.	In the Pound.	Amount of Rate.
		£		£
1857. Dec. 4	Sep. 29, '57, to Mar. 25, '58	38,432	8*d.*	1,282
1858. June 4	Mar. 25, '58, to Sep. 29, '58	38,018	6*d.*	951
,, Dec. 3	Sep. 29, '58, to Mar. 25, '59	39,238	1/–	1,961
1859. June 3	Mar. 25, '59, to Sep. 29, '59	39,838	9*d.*	1,495
,, Dec. 20	Sep. 29, '59, to Mar. 25, '60	41,333	1/–	2,066
1860. June 1	Mar. 25, '60, to Sep. 29, '60	42,202	1/–	2,109
,, Dec. 7	Sep. 29, '60, to Mar. 25, '61	43,850	1/–	2,191
1861. May 31	Mar. 25, '61, to Sep. 29, '61	44,422	1/–	2,221
,, Dec. 6	Sep. 29, '61, to Mar. 25, '62	46,894	1/–	2,342
1862. June 6	Mar. 25, '62, to Sep. 29, '62	47,568	1/–	2,377
,, Dec. 6	Sep. 29, '62, to Mar. 25, '63	49,950	1/–	2,496
1863. June 5	Mar. 25, '63, to Sep. 29, '63	50,610	1/–	2,529
,, Dec. 4	Sep. 29, '63, to Mar. 25, '64	52,328	1/–	2,615
1864. June 3	Mar. 25, '64, to Sep. 29, '64	69,995	9*d.*	2,625
,, Dec. 2	Sep. 29, '64, to Mar. 25, '65	71,360	9*d.*	2,676
1865. June 9	Mar. 25, '65, to Sep. 29, '65	77,118	10*d.*	3,212
,, Dec. 1	Sep. 29, '65, to Mar. 25, '66	80,870	1/1	4,378
1866. July 6	Mar. 25, '66, to Sep. 29, '66	83,069	10*d.*	3,459
,, Dec. 7	Sep. 29, '66, to Mar. 25, '67	86,067	1/1	4,662
1867. June 7	Mar. 25, '67, to Sep. 29, '67	88,170	1/–	4,405
,, Dec. 6	Sep. 29, '67, to Mar. 25, '68	90,079	1/2	5,253
1868. June 5	Mar. 25, '68, to Sep. 29, '68	92,443	1/–	4,620
,, Dec. 4	Sep. 29, '68, to Mar. 25, '69	94,444	1/2	5,509
1869. June 4	Mar. 25, '69, to Sep. 29, '69	95,230	1/–	4,760
,, Dec. 3	Sep. 29, '69, to Mar. 25, '70	96,220	1/2	5,612
1870. June 3	Mar. 25, '70, to Sep. 29, '70	95,918	10*d.*	3,996
,, Dec. 2	Sep. 29, '70, to Mar. 25, '71	98,337	1/–	4,915
1871. June 2	Mar. 25, '71, to Sep. 29, '71	99,129	10*d.*	4,130
,, Dec. 1	Sep. 29, '71, to Mar. 25, '72	99,710	1/–	4,985
1872. June 7	Mar. 25, '72, to Sep. 29, '72	99,798	1/–	4,989
,, Dec. 6	Sep. 29, '72, to Mar. 25, '73	100,468	1/2	5,862
1873. May 2	Mar. 25, '73, to Sep. 29, '73	100,106	1/2	5,841
,, Nov. 7	Sep. 29, '73, to Mar. 25, '74	101,433	1/2	5,917
1874. May 1	Mar. 25, '74, to Sep. 29, '74	101,367	1/1	5,491
,, Nov. 6	Sep. 29, '74, to Mar. 25, '75	102,019	1/2	5,952
1875. May 7	Mar. 25, '75, to Sep. 29, '75	102,924	1/2	6,003
,, Nov. 5	Sep. 29, '75, to Mar. 25, '76	103,911	1/4	6,927
1876. May 5	Mar. 25, '76, to Sep. 29, '76	106,101	1/2½	6,410
,, Nov. 3	Sep. 29, '76, to Mar. 25, '77	107,001	1/4	7,132
1877. May 11	Mar. 25, '77, to Sep. 29, '77	108,239	1/4	7,216
,, Nov. 2	Sep. 29, '77, to Mar. 25, '78	108,923	1/6	8,169

The discrepancy between the rateable value to the Poor Rate and the General District Rates for the period given is accounted for by the fact that the deductions from the gross as to land and other matters is less for District Rate purposes than that under the Poor Rate assessment.

REVENUE DERIVED FROM THE WATER WORKS.

Christmas	Rental Torquay.			Rental St. Mary-Ch.			Rental Newton.			Total.			Increase.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1861–2	1,863	12	3	155	0	9	398	12	8	2,417	5	8			
1862–3	2,089	11	10	208	18	1	436	4	1	2,734	14	0	317	8	4
1863–4	2,380	15	9	273	12	1	544	17	1	3,199	4	11	464	10	11
1864–5	2,712	6	3	220	15	8	632	17	1	3,665	19	0	466	14	1
1865–6	3,062	14	0	377	19	10	758	6	9	4,199	0	7	533	1	7
1866–7	3,134	12	6	453	0	4	802	8	9	4,390	1	7	191	1	0
1867–8	3,314	8	1	458	11	0	857	14	10	4,630	13	11	240	12	4
1868–9	3,523	1	7	525	13	3	895	4	10	4,943	19	8	313	5	9
1869–0	3,654	8	1	546	12	10	764	2	3	4,965	3	2	31	3	6
1870–1	3,792	19	9	591	16	8	861	2	7	5,245	19	0	280	15	10
1871–2	3,862	3	11	592	17	2	883	0	10	5,338	1	11	92	2	11
1872–3	3,914	3	10	605	5	3	961	14	0	5,482	3	1	144	1	2
1873–4	4,067	10	11	630	6	6	1,033	14	4	5,731	11	9	249	8	8
1874–5	4,285	7	9	684	18	6	1,093	5	7	6,063	11	10	332	0	1
1875–6	4,395	3	3	693	4	11	1,137	12	0	6,226	0	2	164	8	4

THE PARISHES, POPULATION, ACREAGE, AND EXPENDITURE, OF THE VARIOUS POOR LAW UNIONS IN THE COUNTY, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS OF 1871.

Parish.	Population 1871.	Area in Acres.	†Expenditure year ended Lady-day, '69. £	No. of Parishes.
Newton Abbot ...	68,210	117,991	17,780	39
Holsworthy	9,426	82,519	2,814	20
East Stonehouse...	14,586	385	4,168	1
Torrington	16,333	81,472	7,007	23
South Molton	18,975	142,503	7,342	30
Okehampton	19,248	126,797	8,306	28
Bideford	19,562	62,944	7,018	17
Kingsbridge	19,744	72,918	7,491	26
Crediton	19,406	91,866	8,900	30
Axminster	2,0056	61,738	9,252	18
Honiton	2,2266	80,867	11,673	28
Plympton S. Mary	22,187	75,569	8,845	21
Tiverton	29,733	103,212	14,046	27
Totnes	35,170	98,342	10,509	28
Tavistock.....	31,127	158,567	11,155	25
Barnstaple	37,358	149,729	12,691	39
*Exeter (City).....	34,648	1,800	11,086	22
St. Thomas.....	49,307	130,141	18,671	50
*Stoke Damerel, (Devonport)	50,094	2,380	13,706	1
*Plymouth	68,080	1,635	24,246	2

* Under Local Acts.

† This includes only relief to the Poor and purposes connected therewith.

NEWTON ABBOT UNION.

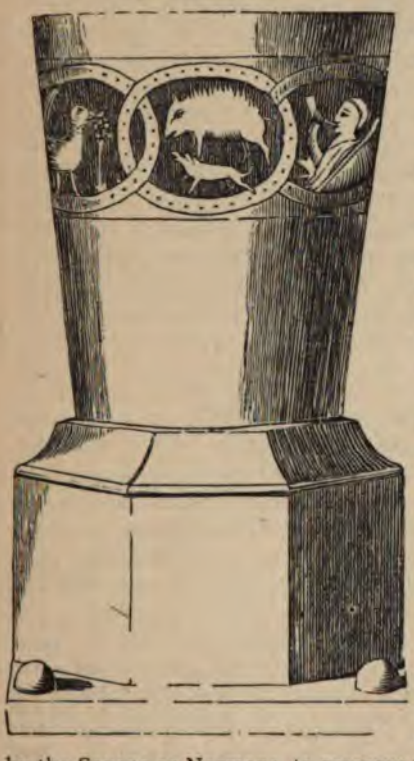
The following table sets forth the number of parishes which constitute the Union of Newton Abbot, and other particulars:—

Parishes.	Area in Acres.	Population in 1871.	Value of Rateable Property, Valuation Lists 25th March, 1876. Gross Rental. £	s.	d.	Rateable Value. £	s.	d.	Assessment to County Rate, 1873.	No. of Elected Guardians.
Ashburton	8,320	2,952	13,528	13	11	11,157	12	11	12,874	3
Abbotskerswell	1.461	453	3,983	13	6	3,348	16	2	3,352	1
Bickington	1,375	263	2,670	0	0	2,311	16	0	2,412	1
Bishopsteignton	4,706	1,039	1,0547	14	2	8,616	14	2	9,014	1
Bovey Tracey	7,262	2,133	12,457	17	10	10,352	2	0	10,352	3
Buckland-in-Moor	1,500	108	994	13	6	865	7	6	872	1
Broadhempstone	2,047	592	5,772	0	0	4,994	4	7	5,292	1
Cockington	1,207	188	4,641	3	10	3,880	15	7	3,512	1
Combeinteignhead	2,310	469	4,044	10	6	3,520	10	4	3,324	1
Coffinswell	1,126	193	2,287	4	6	2,007	8	0	1.944	1
Chudleigh	6,037	2,042	11,460	0	2	9,490	3	11	10,436	3
Denbury	1,068	348	2,359	6	6	1,985	2	6	2,060	1
Dawlish	5,017	4,241	29,585	13	0	22,371	7	8	24,156	3
East Ogwell	1,250	298	2,388	8	0	2,066	16	0	2,148	1
East Teignmouth	671	2,443	18,384	10	9	13,240	8	11	14,200	2
Highweek	2,423	1,625	11,353	11	0	9,018	1	10	9,160	2
Hennock	3.469	887	4,671	9	6	3,989	1	1	4,148	1
Ilsington	7,563	1,150	7,754	2	7	6,686	4	2	6,656	2
Ideford	1,472	292	2,438	1	0	2,015	12	4	2,160	1
Ipplepen	3,070	846	7,797	9	3	6,667	3	4	7,184	1
Kingskerswell	1,744	960	6,418	6	10	5,401	15	2	5,690	1
Kingsteignton	3,983	1,613	11,808	0	4	10,258	0	7	8,760	2
Lustleigh	2,940	318	2,617	15	0	2,242	1	4	2,272	1
Moretonhampstead	7,656	1,551	9,932	4	4	8,431	0	10	8,352	3
Manaton	6,393	403	3,138	1	6	2,726	4	4	2,708	1
North Bovey	5,555	516	3,765	10	0	3,274	2	8	3,064	1
St. Mary-Church	2,590	46,26	25,526	5	6	19,228	9	2	20,496	3
St. Nicholas	446	1,243	3,991	16	6	2,897	15	7	3,356	1
Stokeinteignhead	2,250	681	5,969	11	0	5,045	9	8	5,124	1
Torbrian	2,011	218	3,595	18	0	3,170	6	0	3,404	1
Tormoham	1,465	21,657	151,839	5	9	107,542	8	8	117,248	8
Trusham	749	219	1,070	13	0	917	9	4	984	1
Teigngrace	1,400	147	2,876	3	0	2,468	18	6	2,528	1
Woodland	1,606	160	2,383	10	0	2,070	5	0	2,056	1
Widecombe in-Moor	10,614	901	5,661	17	8	4,880	2	0	4,964	2
West Teignmouth	403	4,301	17,798	18	9	12,877	18	10	13,256	3
Wolborough	1,230	6,082	26,433	16	2	19,069	16	11	19,220	3
West Ogwell	684	31	980	10	0	858	13	4	896	
Haccombe	363	7	675	0	0	543	7	6	644	
TOTALS	117,436	68,203	445,603	6	10	342,579	14	5	3,60348	

APPENDIX.

The Saxon Font at St. Mary-Church. Page 8.

The history of this font is somewhat remarkable. Prior to the year 1824 the end of the font now resting on the floor was uppermost, and the present upper end was buried in the floor of the church. When the floor was repaired in 1824 the figures on the base were discovered, and led to the font being restored to its original position. The figures are sculptured within a guilloche, as represented in the illustration, and are of very rude workmanship, as all such kind of carving was prior to the Conquest. The additions which have since been made to the font, although, no doubt, ornamental, detract much from its simple character in an antiquarian point of view. The illustrations here given are reproduced from Blewitt's *Panorama of Torquay*. Mr. R. Brown, an architect, who gave a description of the font in 1832, says, "Now, as it was the practice with our Catholic forefathers, whenever they rebuilt a church which had been erected either by the Saxons or Normans, to preserve their fonts, and even to retain them in the same original place, there can be no doubt that when this church was so rebuilt, the Saxon font to them appeared of rude workmanship, and as this was supposed to ill accord with their newly





invented Gothic architecture, it was by them inverted. Many of the fonts in our churches therefore belong to the primitive church, and not to the present structures, which may be even the third on the same foundations. It was a custom with the early Saxons first to set up their fonts in different parts of the country, and to enclose them within a wooden house, merely for baptismal purposes, where afterwards they built a church of wood, and in a few instances of stone; whereas the Norman churches were always constructed with stone." The figures within the guilloche are: 1—A man on horseback, blowing a bugle which he holds in his left hand, in his right is an ancient knife. 2—A dog, with his head turned back, looking at a flower. 3—A cock, pecking at a bunch of grapes. 4—A wild boar, baited by a dog. 5—A man with a bugle in his right hand, a spear in his left, and a dog by his side. 6—A nondescript bird, resembling a vulture, pecking at a human figure. 7—A nondescript figure, approaching to the monkey tribe, sitting in a chair and playing on a harp. The illustrations shew the font as it appeared when it was replaced in its original position.

Mode of Life among the Monks. Page 17.

The object of the Order was a pure and contemplative life, and one of the rules was that the brethren were "to labour for the common good." The summer regulations were as follows: To meet daily in Chapter and twice refections, from Easter to Holyrood (ten days before Whitsuntide), with a few exceptions. After Prime (service at six a.m.) the monks to assemble in Chapter, and then to work until Tierce (nine a.m.), when Great Mass was celebrated. Sext (service at twelve) was followed by reading and refection. The time from refection to Nones (service at two or three p.m.) was devoted to sleep. After Nones to Vespers (four p.m.) drinking; and after Vespers reading till Collation. On Sundays the same regulations were observed, except that work

was substituted by reading. In Fasts, Mass came after Sext; reading till Nones; after Nones refection and sleep. In harvest time Mass was celebrated early in the morning. At this period of the year the monks worked from Prime to Sext, and dined out of the house if needful; they also slept out if some distance from the Abbey. "If afar off" they worked till Vespers, and after singing them in the fields, returned home. The winter regulations were: From September 14th to Easter, continual fast and dining after Nones, except Sundays and Christmas; Tierce after Chapter, without an interval; after Tierce, *mixtus* for the boys and infirm, and work till Sext. Mass followed, and the remainder of the time to Nones was taken up with reading. Refection succeeded to Nones, and work or reading occupied their time to Vespers, with reading again from Vespers to Collation. Sundays were observed the same as in summer, except that Nones was said after refection, because there was no sleep before it. On all festivals, when there was no work, the monks read during the working hours. In Lent, the seven Penitential Psalms were said by the convent prostrate; Tierce followed without interval; Mass after Nones; refection after Vespers; after refection reading, and in case of any necessity, work. "After Prime," says an old monk, "we are sent to work in a garden, to work and delve for near two hours more." Mr. Fosbrooke, from whose *British Monachism* these particulars are derived, adds, "I find orders 'that the brethren do work in the gardens from morning till vespers.'" In a note the author adds that this refers to the house styled St. Radgunde, of Præmonstratensians, perhaps. *According to the Statutes* adds the Visitation.

The List of Abbots. A Dispute with the Burgesses of Newton. Old Leases. Page 30.

The list of abbots, as given on page 30, is as complete as diligent research can make it, but it is believed that it does not contain the whole of the abbots, of whom there are believed to have been twenty.

A singular case was referred to the Judge of Assize at Exeter on the 2nd of March, 1411, in which William Michel or Mychell, the abbot of Torre, and the convent, were plaintiffs, and the burgesses of Newton Abbot the defendants. The abbot and convent, as lords of the manor of Wolborough, of which the town of Newton Abbot is parcel, and as impropriate rectors of Wolborough Church, within which parish St. Leonard's Chapel is situated, complained of divers trespasses committed by the said burgesses by having disseized them of one messuage and half-an-acre of land in Newton Abbot; by their having broken down certain fences and a gate in Wolborough; by having prevented the bailiffs of the abbey from levying the tolls, customs, and other profits of the fairs and market of Newton Abbot;

by having turned cattle into the pastures of Wolborough; by having introduced priests into St. Leonard's Chapel, to the prejudice of the mother church; and by having holden courts without the authority of the abbot, and in defiance of his orders. In reply, the burgesses alleged that the messuage complained of was St. Leonard's Chapel, which had been used by the burgesses and inhabitants from time immemorial; that the land said to be disseized was situate in the middle of the High Street, at the west end of the said chapel; that on the said land were fixed shambles and stands, where tradesmen laid out their goods on fairs and market days; that at other times, according to established custom, the burgesses and inhabitants there exposed fish, wood, clothes, &c.; that the burgesses yearly elected from among themselves a head bailiff and other officers; that they rented the tolls of the fairs and market from the abbot and convent, and had regularly paid the stipulated rent. As to the fences and gate, that a wood belonging to the abbot and convent lay between the town and the parish church, through which there was an ancient church path. This path had been blocked up by the abbot's servants, and they submitted that they had only exercised a just right in breaking down the fences and removing the gate. With respect to the pasturage, it had been enjoyed by the tenants of the abbey from time immemorial. The Judge decided on the 4th of March that the free tenure of St. Leonard's Chapel, as well as the land occupied by the shambles, were clearly vested in the abbot and convent, but that the public was entitled to the free use of the chapel—all offerings, oblations, and profits, however, belonged to the abbot and convent; the absolute right of the latter to the stalls and shambles was also fully admitted, but accompanied with a recommendation of farming them to the head bailiff at a fixed annual rent.*

Among the leases granted by Simon Rede, the last abbot of Torre, are the following places: "*Infra manorium nostrum* de Woolborough —Strayer Park, Hokelonde, Rowse's Hill, Rowse's Garden, Hethefield, Henborough, Gaulemore, Bromehill, Midell Parke, Lang Parke, Samforde Mede, and Woolborough Mede.

The following entries occur in the Ecclesiastical Survey which took place in the 32 Hen. VIII., of the possessions of the Abbey of Torre:—

	£	s.	d.
Newton Abbott redd' lib' ten'	0	15	2¼
Newton Abbott perquis' cur'	0	18	3
Woolborough redd' lib' ten	1	14	8
Woolborough redd' cust' et conv. ten'	42	15	3
Woolborough firma rectoris'	17	14	1
Woolborough perquis' cur'	2	0	6

Lord William Brewer in 1196 granted the manor and town of

* Ecclesiastical Antiquities, by Oliver and Jones.

Wolborough, with the advowson of its church, to his foundation of Torre Abbey, and it continued to form a part of its possessions until its final dissolution.

Paignton Parish Church. Page 79.

This church, to which an incidental reference has been made, is at least the second on the same foundation. When the restoration of the church was commenced several years ago, portions of the sedilia of the former edifice were brought to light, the artificial colouring of which was as brilliant as when first laid on. The west door is a fine example of Norman architecture, and it is believed



NORMAN DOORWAY, TOWER ENTRANCE.



PULPIT.

belonged to the church of which the sedilia formed a part. The pulpit is an excellent piece of antique carved work; both are worthy of notice. The late Sir William Tite contributed a valuable paper to the proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries on the Kirkham Chantry, which, mutilated as it is, is still a noble piece of sculpture. In the main wall of the south aisle is a very old sculptured skeleton, recumbent.

Ilesam Grange. Page 87.

The following note on Ilesam Grange has been communicated to the writer by Mr. Morton Latham, since the passage relating to the subject at page 87 was printed:—

At Ilesam Grange we can picture to ourselves the life in a farm of the middle ages which was the property of a monastery. The labourers on the farm were *ascripti glebæ*, and their social position is best described by the word *serfs*. They slept together in a dormitory, and were only a degree better off than the cattle in the stable below. The work was carried on under the supervision of a monk, who lived in a separate building; and the remains of his residence are the most interesting portion of the grange. The oldest buildings of the farm are on the north side of the farm yard, with a fine round-arch doorway, on the visitor's left hand after he has passed the gateway.

That these were not always used only as barns is proved by the remains of a fireplace and doorway on the upper floor, while the small windows should make us thankful that glass enables the humblest cottager to have more light now than, some seven hundred years ago, was deemed sufficient for the whole body of farm labourers who probably lived together on that upper floor. The ground floor was doubtless used as stables, and the barn was probably in the eastern portion of this building. The wing which runs down towards the gateway is, of course, modern. The careful use of a durable red sandstone for the large doorway and the west window and the springers of the roof at the west end of this building is interesting. The monk's house, built in the fifteenth century, apart from the then existing farm buildings, may have been erected when the farm first became attached to the Abbey property, for the use of the monk appointed to superintend the farm. On the ground floor was his store-room, and, perhaps, his office for secular affairs; on the first floor, approached by an external flight of stairs, the chapel; and above this the priest's sleeping room, the floor of which has now fallen in. The existence of the chapel is a happy proof that, if temporal comforts were wanting to the tenants of the church, their spiritual welfare at least was cared for by their landlords. The altar stood at the north end of the chapel. The building does not stand due north and south, but it will be convenient to call the end nearest to the farm yard the north end. On the right of the window at that end of the chapel may be traced the remains of a stone credence table. The length of the chapel internally from north to south is 12 feet 8 inches; the breadth at the south end is 9 feet 8 inches; at the north, or altar end, 9 feet 2 inches. This diminution of breadth from the door to the altar may have been accidental, but it has, by augmenting the perspective, the effect of increasing the apparent length of the chapel, and we know that such an artifice was in fact practiced at this time with this object. The internal height of the chapel was about 8 feet 8 inches. The thickness of the south wall is 25 inches, of the north wall 27 inches, and of the east and west walls 21 inches. The real object for which a monk resided at the Grange was, doubtless, to superintend the work of the farm, and not the least interesting objects in his residence are the little windows, or *spy-holes*, which were made to facilitate this duty. In the room on the ground floor is one such spy-hole, commanding the farm yard. In the chapel, on the left of the window over the altar, which was filled with stained glass and therefore could not be seen through, is another such spy-hole, also commanding the farm yard. The inference is that the chapel was used by the monk as a sitting room. In the room over the chapel are several spy-holes in various directions. For a descrip-

tion of windows of this kind the reader is referred to the account of Wanswell Court, at page 268 of "Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages," part 2. The volume can be seen in the library of the Natural History Museum. Above the monk's house is an old belfry, and the bell perhaps served to summon the labourers for other purposes than prayer. The cross is, of course, new, as is the roof which has been placed on the building to preserve it. Beyond this interesting building is an old cider cellar, which is still used for the same purpose. Farther on is an old stone drinking trough for cattle. In a roofless building in the farm yard is an ancient apple "cracker," which has been superseded by a more elaborate machine which has introduced itself into a building some seven hundred years its senior. Lovers of the revival of gothic forms in house furniture will be interested to find the originals of some of their door fastenings about the farm buildings.

The Vessel in which the Prince of Orange came to England. Page 90.

The after history of the vessel in which William the Third made his adventurous invasion of England is very remarkable. She was in existence for over 130 years after she brought the Prince of Orange to Brixham, and from the enormous strength of her construction would no doubt have lasted much longer had not her career been cut short by the storm of February 18th, 1827, when she was driven ashore near Tynemouth and totally wrecked. The vessel was built in the Thames in the early part of the seventeenth century, and was afterwards purchased for the Prince of Orange by his adherents, as an addition to the fleet which was destined to effect the revolution of 1688. The Prince expressly selected this vessel to convey himself and suite to England, and he bestowed upon her the name of the *Princess Mary*, in honour of his illustrious consort, the daughter of James II, With the success of the Prince of Orange, the fame of the *Princess Mary* correspondingly rose. During the whole of William's reign she held a place of honour as one of the royal yachts, and was afterwards regularly used as the pleasure yacht of Queen Anne. By this time, however, her original build was much interfered with, from the numerous and extensive repairs she had from time to time undergone. On the death of the Queen, she came into the possession of his Majesty King George I., by whose order she ceased to form part of the royal establishment, and was used by the noblemen connected with the Court. The vessel was afterwards sold by the Government to Messrs. Walters of London, by whom she was named the *Betsy Cairns*, in honour of some lady connected with the West Indies, to which the now venerable craft traded. She was next sold to Messrs. Carclew of London, and was employed by them as a collier, and in this capacity conveyed many cargoes from the Tyne to

London. Notwithstanding the grimy appearance which the aged ship had assumed, she was looked upon with veneration by the sailors, who had a superstitious feeling that while the *Betsy Cairns* kept afloat, Protestantism would remain in the ascendency. The ship seems to have been again restored, and was purchased by Mr. G. W. Wilson of South Shields, and, under the charge of Mr. Henry Wilson, traded as a merchantman to various ports; at last, while on a voyage from Shields to Hamburg, the brave old ship, which had rode triumphantly through so many gales, was caught in a storm too strong for her weather-beaten ribs to withstand. A heavy snow was falling, and the wind, blowing a perfect hurricane, lashed the ocean to a pitch of fury. In this fearful state of things the old ship became quite unmanagable, and was drawn unto a dangerous reef of rocks near Tynemouth Castle, called the Black Middens. The crew were saved by the lifeboat which put off to their assistance. In length the *Betsy Cairns* was 80ft. 3in. by 23ft. broad. She had two decks, the height between which was 6ft. 6in. She was carvel-built, and without galleries, square-sterned, and devoid of figure-head. She had two masts, and was square-rigged, with standing bowsprit. The remnant of her original timbering, though but scanty, was extremely fine. There was a profusion of rich and elaborate oak carvings, the colour of the wood, from age and exposure, resembling that of ebony. As soon as the news of her wreck became known throughout the country, the people of Shields were inundated with applications for portions of her remains. On the part of the Orange Lodges these applications were especially importunate. Snuff boxes and souvenirs of various kinds were made in large numbers, and brought exorbitant prices. Each of the members of the Corporation of Newcastle were presented with one of these boxes, which exhibit in a marked degree the durability and inimitable qualities of the British oak. Two carved figures, part of the knight-heads, are now in the possession of the Brethren of the Trinity House at Newcastle; and a beam, with mouldings covered with gilding, and forming part of the principal cabin, became the property of Mr. Rippon Waterville, North Shields.

The Ridgeway Family. Page 108.

The existing representative of this family is Colonel Ridgeway of Sheplegh, who has in his possession a number of family portraits and other memorials. The owner of Sheplegh has a fine collection of curiosities; among them are the table and floor of the old India House, the dining table of the old Gridiron Club, portraits of the Kit Cat Club, and many pictures by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Lawrence, and other eminent painters.

Lighting Torquay with Gas. Page 157.

The following lines were written by the late Mr. Joseph Garrow, who was one of the resident magistrates :—

Papa and Jemima on a Walk on the Strand on the Night of October 8th, 1834, the first night the Gas was lighted in the Shops.

Come, quick, Jemima, fetch your shawl,
Come, come, and take my hand,
And let us see the brilliant gas
Just lighted on the Strand.

Oh ! yes, Papa,—Oh ! what a treat !
The Strand looks all in flames ;
I know the shops, so let me, pray,
Just tell you all the names.

The Bat, they say, ne'er quits his hole,
Until the dusky night,
But here's a Bat's wing flitting round,
More than the noon day bright.

And Bats, we're told, love darkness grim
Within their little cell ;
But here ten gas lights blaze away
At Batt's well known Hotel.[a]

What have we next, 'midst silver bright,
On pedestal so prim !
Had Jacob's father burned gas light,
He saw (Esau) had ne'er mocked him.[b]

Ribbons and lace, and dresses gay,
I ne'er have seen so well,
This little shop, which once so dark,
Will now Rend-ell for ell. [c]

Here's old established grocery,
Or physic as you will,
Who buys it here can see so clear
They never can Hav-ill. [d]

Holm wood, I fear, has taken fire,
The blaze so brilliant comes ;
The gas improves the trade so much,
Currants will turn to plums. [e]

Oh, la, Papa ! Oh, pray look here !
Don't be in such a hurry,
Just look at Cockrem's, one would think
The *Sun* was stationary. [f]

And here's a fiery dragon, too,
Just tamed by Mr. Burt,
Sitting, he breathes six fiery flames,
Flames which can do no hurt.[g]

Oh ! what a lovely pair I see,
Shewn by this light in front,
'Tis Hero and Leander, sure,
Across the *Ellis* pont. [h]

Here's gold and silver, jewels bright,
Sold by a Son of Job,
But he's magnificent, and so
He needs must light the globe.[i]

Oh ! what a flame, and white and blue,
I pray thee do but tarry,
Sure in this world was ne'er such blaze,
He's Son of the Old Harry.[j]

Look opposite, a thousand heads,
Oh, me ! whence can they come ?
Pray tell me, Jenny, where's the man,
Where is he ? *Wy-att* home. [k]

Now here's the last along the Strand,
It cuts a mighty splash, sir,
And I believe, don't you, Papa,
'Twill help to make a Dashper. [l]

There's Birmingham and Sheffield ware,
Which used to look so sad ;
Here, to the right, the people stare,
As if it were Stark mad. [m]

See here the new light circulates,
Without e'er smoke or gloom,
Knowledge it offers of all sorts,
Or lights a Billiard Room.

Here learning of all kinds is found,
For head, or heart, or soul ;
Good people, do not burn yourselves,
They say you're made of *Cole.* [n]

Oh ! here's a flame three feet in height,
Bright as a Salamander ;
Too high to *last*, 'midst boots and shoes,
He looks like a High *Lander.* [o]

And here's a many-coloured flame !
The owner looks so sage,
As pills or potions he compounds,
Or reads the chymic *Page.* [p]

But what a dingy light is seen,
Our senses to appal
From Buckey's five-mould stingy ray
As far as darkness *Hall.* [q]

One light, indeed, beguiles the way,
And saves our scared wits,
It lights the shop and pathway too,
We've nought to fear from *Pitts.* [r]

To look at Gidley's farthing rush
In truth I cannot stay,
And that shop there does look so black,
It's well called *White away.*[s]

Now, dear Papa, I've seen enough,
So homeward let us pass,
And ere we lay us down thank God
That we have seen the gas.

Oh ! may it prosper, may it show
The ruffian as he lurks,
And may the new light drive away
The devil and his works.

Good night, Jemima, fare thee well,
Thy words all praise surpass,
And may'st thou never feel a flame
That's more impure than gas.

[a] The Royal. [b] Jacobs, Silversmith. [c] Rendell, Linen-draper. [d] Paul Havill, Chemist. [e] Holmwood, Grocer. [f] Cockrem, Printer, &c., the *Sun* Printing Office. [g] Burt, Cabinet Maker. [h] Ellis, Hair-dresser. [i] Braham, Jeweller. [j] Harrison, Chemist. [k] Wyatt, Chemist. [l] Dashper, Linen-draper. [m] Stark, Ironmonger. [n] Mrs. Peggy Cole's Library. [o] Lander, Shoemaker. [p] Page, Chemist. [q] Buckingham, Grocer's Hall, Linen-draper ; lit with candles. [r] Pitts, Baker. [s] Gidley & Whiteway ; lit with candles.

the "Marlborough" and George Gilley. Page 161.

able portion of the stores of the *Marlborough* was
r. George Gilley, who was a native of Torquay, and a
rade. He was instrumental in saving over fifty lives
own . The following is a record of his most important
1828 Mr. Gilley rescued the crew of a vessel belonging
rs. nley, named the *Elina*, which was wrecked under
Him. In 1836 he saved a large portion of the wreck of
ke of Marlborough. During the same year he went off to a
combe vessel, which went ashore near the Thatcher rock, and
ed all hands. In 1838 he board the *Etheridge*, when she
ck on the rocks near Torre Abbey Sands, and took off twenty
n. In 1841 he went off to the Fre h vessel *Hester*, which had
isted signals of distress in Babbacu e Bay; he saved two men
nd a boy, and afterwards brought the sel round to the Torquay
rbour. On the same day he boarded another French vessel in dis-
ss in the roadstead, and took her safely into the harbour. During
same year, by means of a rope, he swung off from the cliffs of
aldon Hill and reached the schooner *Native*, which had stranded
the rocks near Torre Abbey Sands, and sent ashore fifteen men
nd boys, one at a time, in a basket slung on a rope furnished by the
coastguard. In February, 1843, Gilley, assisted by N. Prowse,
S. Harley, P. Howard, and J. Clark, during a terrific gale, went off

in a boat and saved the lives of several Brixham fishermen, and afterwards took off the crew of a French sloop. This was a remarkable act of bravery, and was witnessed by hundreds of persons. It was for this act that Louis Philip, king of the French, sent silver medals to Gilley and his colleagues, and the Royal Humane Society conferred a silver medal on Mr. Gilley. Gilley was an ingenious mechanic, and nearly forty years ago, long before iron was used as a material for ship-building, constructed an iron seine-boat, with an overhanging stern, like the well-known yacht *Julienne*. His object in designing such a vessel was that it might be backed over rocks or a shallow landing place, so that the seine nets might be handed in and out with greater facility. For the purpose of using this boat for the fishery, he caused a seine net to be made more than half-a-mile in length; it extended from the pier head nearly over to the Corbons Head. One or two trials, however, proved that it was too unwieldly to be manageable. Mr. Gilley died March 11th, 1851.

While on the subject of rewards for bravery, it may be mentioned that Mr. W. A. Goss, builder, when only twelve years of age, was presented with £5 and the Royal Humane Society's medal for bravery. The circumstances were these: one day, during

of July, 1843, a little boy, escaping from his nursemaid, fell into the harbour. Mr. Goss, who was on the quay, being an excellent swimmer, plunged into the water and succeeded in rescuing the child, who was in an unconscious state. The intrepidity and extreme youth of Mr. Goss induced the Humane Society to vote its medal, which was presented to him in the Assembly Room of the Royal Hotel by the late Sir Warwick Hele Tonkin, the French Consul at Teignmouth, and the Rev. Mr. Blackmore, at that time the incumbent of Tor Church; and the medals to Mr. Gilley and the fishermen were presented at the same time. The child thus rescued by Mr. W. A. Goss was William Jeffery Prowse, son of Mr. Isaac Prowse, wine merchant, of Palk Street, and nephew of Mr. W. Prowse. Mr. W. J. Prowse in subsequent years attained considerable reputation as a man of letters, and was connected with *Fun* and the *Daily Telegraph*. Some of his earliest productions appeared in the *Torquay Directory*. His biography was written by his friend Tom Hood. Mr. W. J. Prowse's mother was a highly gifted woman, and was the authoress of a book of poems.

The Sewerage. Page 286.

The new main sewer commences at a point a few yards in front of the Spanish Barn, whence it passes across the meadows and through the grounds of the Belgrave Hotel, skirting the back of Abbey Crescent, where it joins the first tunnel under Waldon Hill. From this tunnel the sewage passes to the pumping station in Swan Street, where it is raised to the higher level sewer, and proceeds through a tunnel from Fleet Street under Higher Terrace, Apsley House, and Meadfoot Hill, to the sea road, along which it is carried by a barrel sewer, and enters the third tunnel under Kilmorie, being finally discharged into the sea at Hope's Nose, a distance of three miles from Torre Abbey. This undertaking was commenced in May, 1875, by Messrs. Bell, on a contract for £38,446, but they failed in January, 1876, after executing work to the extent of between £8,000 and £9,000, owing to the extreme hardness of the rock they encountered, and the large quantity of water which entered the shafts. When the Local Board invited fresh tenders, only three were sent in, and the lowest of these was £72,000 to complete Messrs. Bell's contract, and exclusive of extras, estimated at several thousand pounds, to complete the whole. Accordingly, on the advice of Sir Joseph Bazalgette, the Board determined upon completing the sewerage themselves; work was resumed at the end of March, 1876, and by November the same year, the tunnel through Waldon Hill, 1,150 feet in length and 5ft. 6in. by 4ft. in diameter, was finished. The tunnel from Fleet Street to Meadfoot, 4,570 feet in length by 7 feet in

diameter, was completed in September, 1877, and the hill from Kilmorie to Hope's Nose, 4,560 feet by 7 feet in diameter, was finally perforated on Tuesday, the 16th of October, the same year. This last place was the most difficult of the entire undertaking, owing to the extreme hardness of the rock and the depth of working from the surface, and the large quantity of water which flowed in from the springs. So great were the difficulties encountered, that the driving of the tunnel was stopped in June, when an alternative plan was entertained of placing the outfall at a point considerably to the west of Hope's Nose; as, however, this would not be so effectual, the Board adhered to the original scheme, and in August the work was continued by hand labour as before. As it was found that the rock increased in hardness, and the average length driven each week having dropped from fourteen feet to eight feet, the authorities determined upon employing rock-boring machinery. Three of Sturgeon's patent high-speed air compressors were placed at the mouth of the Kilmorie tunnel, and the compressed air for driving the rock-drills was conveyed by pipes over the hill and down a shaft 210 feet deep, and thence along the tunnel to the drilling machines, a total distance, when the miners met, of about 5,200 feet, and for the west face about 2,300 feet. The boring was carried on at both ends, and also from two intermediate shafts; the boring was so true, that when the miners met on the 16th of October, there was scarcely any preceptible difference in the cutting. Six of Ingersoll's patent self-feeding 22in. cylinder rock-boring machines were provided, but never more than four were used at a time, and two of the air compressors were sufficient to supply the drills. The miners worked eight-hour shifts, or three shifts in the twenty-four hours, so that, excepting the spare air compressors and two drilling machines, the machinery was kept in motion from seven o'clock on Monday to nine at night on Saturday. The average weekly distance driven by the boring machinery was 29 feet on the Kilmorie side, and 19 on the other. Some idea of the nature of the rock may be formed from the fact that over 21,000 pounds of dynamite and 70,000 treble-force detonators, besides other explosives, were used in blasting it. The works were conducted under the supervision of Mr. G. E. Phillips.

THE GOVERNING BODIES OF TORQUAY.

The following is a list of the persons who have served as members of the Select Vestries, Town Commissioners, and Local Boards of Health, from April, 1825, to 1877:—

THE SELECT VESTRY.

1825.—April.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	William Bastick	John Rossiter
Henry George Cary	Edward Bedlake	John Stabb
Robert Abraham	John Abbott	Thomas Rossiter
James N. P. Cosserat	Henry Dashper	Jacob Harvey
John Mudge	William Rossiter	Thomas Luscombe
William Dawe	John Tapley	Edward Henley
William Gale	John Cowell	

1826.—April.

Sir L. V. Palk	Robert Stark	John Cowell
Henry George Cary	William Bastick	John Tapley
John Mudge	Edward Bedlake	Thomas Rossiter
William Kitson, jun.	Edward Henley	John Rossiter
Thomas Stabb	Thomas Luscombe	Matthew Mudge
William Dawe	Jacob Harvey	John Prowse
William Gale	John Stabb	Robert Abraham *

1827.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	William Gale	John Cowell, sen.
Henry George Cary	William Bastick	John Tapley, jun.
Thomas Mudge, jun.	Edward Bedlake	John Prowse
William Kitson, jun.	Edward Henley	Matthew Mudge
William Wish	Thomas Luscombe	Robert Abraham
William Dawe	Jacob Harvey	Thomas Rossiter
William Tapley	John Stabb	John Sharland

1828.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	Thomas Luscombe	Thomas Rossiter
Henry George Cary	Jacob Harvey	John Sharland
John Mudge	John Cowell, sen.	Robert Stark
William Kitson	John Cowell, jun.	Joseph Turner
William Tapley	John Tapley	James Perryman
William Bastick	Matthew Mudge	Joseph Abbott
Edward Bedlake	Robert Abraham	Thomas Mudge

1829.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	John Stabb	Joseph Turner
Henry George Cary	Jacob Harvey	William Dawe
Robert Abraham	John Tapley	William Bastick
William Kitson	James Perriman	John Abbott
John Cowell, sen.	John Sharland	Edward Henley
William Tapley	Thomas Rossiter	Edward Bedlake
Robert Stark	Thomas Mudge	

* This is one over and above the orthodox number of twenty—no explanation is offered in the minutes. The same excess occurs in two subsequent years.

1830.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	Jacob Harvey	William Luscombe
Henry George Cary	Robert Stark	John Sharland
Robert Abraham	William Wish	Thomas Godfrey
William Kitson	Thomas Gale	Thomas Mudge
John Cowell, sen.	John Mudge	Matthew Mudge
William Tapley	John Rossiter	Nicholas Mudge
John Stabb	Mark Whiteway	

1831.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	Joseph Turner	Joseph Garrow
Henry George Cary	John Rossiter	William Gale
William Kitson	John Cowell, jun.	Robert Stark
William Tapley	Rev. W. Gee	Edward Henley
William Luscombe	Thomas Rossiter	John Mudge
Jacob Harvey	Mark Whiteway	William Peek
Samuel Cockings	William Wish	

1832.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	Jacob Harvey	William Wakeham
Robert Shedden	William Wish	Thomas Rossiter
Henry George Cary	John Tapley, jun.	William Gale
Robert Abraham	Robert Stark	Edward Henley
William Kitson	Mark Whiteway	Samuel Cockings
John Cowell, jun.	William Tapley	John Sharland
John Mudge	Matthew Mudge	

1833.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	John Cowell, jun.	John Tapley
Henry George Cary	Jacob Harvey	Thomas Mudge
William Kitson	William Tapley	James Pope
William Wish	William Wakeham	Robert Stark
John Abbott	John Mudge	Samuel Cockings
Mark Whiteway	Matthew Mudge	John Hammick
Thomas Luscombe	John Sharland	

1834.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	John Cowell	Thomas Nickols
Henry George Cary	William Watson	Joseph Reed
Joseph Garrow	Jacob Harvey	William Tapley
Samuel Cockings	William Branscombe	William Turner
George Yeo	John Mare	William Kitson
Robert Stark	Matthew Mudge	William Luscombe
Thomas Rossiter	Joseph Raby	

1835.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	John Tapley, jun.	Joseph Reed
Henry George Cary	John Matthews	John Bridgman, sen.
Robert Stark	James Batt	Joseph Raby
Samuel Cockings	John Abbott, sen.	John Sharland
John Rossiter	Jabez Sims	Robert Slade
William Luscombe	Thomas Godfrey	Joseph Morgan
udge, sen.	William Peek, sen.	

1836.

Sir L. V. Palk, Bart.	William Peek	Thomas Beazley
Henry George Cary	Mark Whiteway	John Cowell
William Kitson	Thomas Staddon	Thomas Godfrey
Nicholas Mudge, sen.	Benjamin Ambrose Hall	Joseph Turner, sen.
William Bastick	Samuel Rowe	William Tamlin
John Mudge, sen.	Robert Stark	William Tapley
John Stabb, sen.	William Stark	John Callard
Edward Bedlake		

THE IMPROVEMENT COMMISSIONERS.

The Improvement Act was adopted in 1835, but it appears that for the first two years, while it was being brought into working order, the Select Vestry continued to be elected, notwithstanding that the new governing body of Commissioners was in existence. The first Board of Commissioners, elected 3rd of August, was as follows :—

1835.

William Kitson	Richard Jope Slade	Henry Parkin
Henry George Cary	Carter Godfrey	Samuel Cockings
John Lear	John Bowes Brown	Jacob Harvey
William Tapley	William Wish	Carr Ellison Lucas
William Luscombe	John Rossiter	Richard Tucker Wyatt
William Pollard	Robert Stark	Henry Cartwright

1836.

At a meeting of the Commissioners on the 16th of June, there were eight vacancies to provide for, three caused by Messrs. Lucas, Wyatt, and Cartwright declining to act ; and five owing to the retirement of Messrs. R. Stark, W. Wish, W. Luscombe, W. Tapley, and Henry Parkin. The places of the three former were supplied by Giovanni Aubrey Bezzi, Benjamin Ambrose Hall, and James Pope ; and the other five were Robert Stark, W. Wish, W. Tapley, John Mare, and Joseph Cowell Raby. The constitution of the Board was accordingly thus :—

Elected in 1835.	*Elected in June,* 1836, *in lieu of Commissioners retiring by rotation.*	*Elected in* 1836, *in lieu of Vacancies.*
H. G. Cary	R. Stark	G. A. Bezzi
W. Pollard	W. Wish	B. A. Hall
Carter Godfrey	W. Tapley	James Pope
John Lear	John Mare	
J. B. Brown	J. C. Raby	
J. Rossiter		
S. Cockings		
Jacob Harvey		
R. J. Slade		
W. Kitson		

Mr. Bezzi withdrew, and of the twelve above who were elected in 1835, six retired on the 24th of June, namely, H. G. Cary, W. Pollard, C. Godfrey, J. B. Brown, J. Rossiter, and Jacob Harvey; and there were elected, John Matthews, B. Hamilton, R. Stark, W. Wish, W. Tapley, and J. C. Raby. After the election the Board consisted of the following :—

Elected in 1835.	*Elected in room of Vacancies.*	*Elected in* 1836 *for those who retired in rotation.*	*Elected in* 1836.
W. Kitson	B. A. Hall	W. Tapley	J. Matthews
J. Lear	G. A. Bezzi	J. Mare	B. Hamilton
R. Slade	James Pope	W. Wish	R. Stark
S. Cockings		R. Stark	W. Wish
		J. C. Raby	W. Tapley
			J. C. Raby

1837.—June 30th.

Elected 1835.	*Elected* 1836.	*Elected* 1837.
W. Tapley	John Matthews	W. Whiteway
W. Kitson	B. Hamilton	H. Cartwright
G. A. Bezzi	R. Stark	W. Luscombe
W. Wish	W. Wish	Jacob Harvey
H. Parkin	W. Tapley	John Abbott
H. G. Cary	J. C. Raby	Paul Havill

1838.—July 13th.

Elected 1836.	*Elected* 1837.	*Elected* 1838.
J. Matthews	W. Whiteway	R. J. Slade
B. Hamilton	H. Cartwright	W. Prowse
R. Stark	W. Luscombe	W. Kitson
W. Wish	Jacob Harvey	S. Cockings
W. Tapley	John Abbott, jun.	Nicholas Mudge
J. C. Raby	Paul Havill	John Mare

1839.—July.

Elected 1837.	*Elected* 1838.	*Elected* 1839.
W. Whiteway	R. J. Slade	H. G. Cary
H. Cartwright	W. Prowse	J. T. Harvey
W. Luscombe	W. Kitson	R. J. Slade
Jacob Harvey	S. Cockings	W. Wish
John Abbott, jun.	Nicholas Mudge	John Matthews
Paul Havill	John Mare	H. C. M. Phillipps

1840.—July 3rd.

Elected 1838.	*Elected* 1839.	*Elected* 1840.
R. J. Slade	H. G. Cary	H. Parkin
W. Prowse	J. T. Harvey	A. W. Paul
W. Kitson	R. J. Slade	Jacob Harvey
S. Cockings	W. Wish	Edward Vivian
Nicholas Mudge	J. Matthews	Sir L. V. Pilk
John Mare	H. C. M. Phillipps	John Rossiter

1841.—July.

Elected 1839.	*Elected* 1840.	*Elected* 1841.
H. G. Cary	H. Parkin	W. Prowse
J. T. Harvey	A. W. Field	S. Cockings
R. Stark	Jacob Harvey	J. Mare
W. Wish	Edward Vivian	W. Kitson
J. Matthews	Sir L. Palk	J. Lear
H. C. M. Phillipps	John Rossiter	P. L. Phillips

And J. M. Smart, in the place of H. G. Cary, deceased.

1842.—July.

Elected 1840.	*Elected* 1841.	*Elected* 1842.
H. Parkin	W. Prowse	H. C. M. Phillipps
A. W. Field	S. Cockings	R. Stark
Jacob Harvey	J. Mare	W. Wish
Edward Vivian	W. Kitson	J. Matthews
Sir L. V. Palk	J. Lear	W. R. Jolley
J. Rossiter	P. L. Phillips	R. J. Slade

1843.—July.

Elected 1841.	*Elected* 1842.	*Elected* 1843.
W. Prowse	H. C. M. Phillipps	J. T. Harvey
S. Cockings	R. Stark	W. Wakeham
J. Mare	W. Wish	John Rossiter
W. Kitson	J. Matthews	A. W. Field
J. Lear	W. R. Jolley	H. Parkin
P. L. Phillips	R. J. Slade	James Hack

1844.—July.

Elected 1842.	*Elected* 1843.	*Elected* 1844.
H. C. M. Phillipps	J. T. Harvey	W. Kitson
R. Stark	W. Wakeham	S. Cockings
W. Wish	John Rossiter	W. Prowse
J. Matthews	A. W. Field	R. H. Taylor
W. R. Jolley	H. Parkin	J. Radford
R. J. Slade	James Hack	P. L. Phillips

1845.—July.

Elected 1843.	*Elected* 1844.	*Elected* 1845.
J. T. Harvey	W. Kitson	W. Wish
W. Wakeham	S. Cockings	R. Stark
John Rossiter	W. Prowse	R. J. Slade
A. W. Field	R. H. Taylor	C. Kitson
H. Parkin	J. Radford	Jacob Harvey
James Hack	P. L. Phillips	John Matthews

1846.—July.

Elected 1844.	*Elected* 1845.	*Elected* 1846.
W. Kitson	W. Wish	Capt. J. H. Lee
S. Cockings	R. Stark	J. T. Harvey
W. Prowse	R. J. Slade	E. Vivian
R. H. Taylor	C. Kitson	J. Hack
J. Radford	Jacob Harvey	Col. Meyrick
P. L. Phillips	John Matthews	R. M. St. George

1847.—July.

Elected 1845.	*Elected* 1846.	*Elected* 1847.
W. Wish	Capt. J. H. Lee	S. Bridgman
R. Stark	J. T. Harvey	W. N. Peckins
R. J. Slade	E. Vivian	W. Kitson
C. Kitson	J. Hack	R. H. Taylor
Jacob Harvey	Col. Meyrick	W. Harvey
John Matthews	R. M. St. George	W. Wakeham

1848.—June.

Elected 1846.	*Elected* 1847.	*Elected* 1848.
Capt. J. H. Lee	S. Bridgman	C. Kitson
J. T. Harvey	W. N. Peckins	W. Wish
E. Vivian	W. Kitson	R. Stark
J. Hack	R. H. Taylor	R. Slade
Col. Meyrick	W. Harvey	J. Rossiter
R. M. St. George	W. Wakeham	George Fisher

1849.—July.

Elected 1847.	*Elected* 1848.	*Elected* 1849.
S. Bridgman	C. Kitson	Capt. J. H. Lee
W. N. Peckins	W. Wish	J. T. Harvey
W. Kitson	R. Stark	C. Dashwood
R. H. Taylor	R. Slade	W. R. Jolley
W. Harvey	J. Rossiter	John Mare
W. Wakeham	George Fisher	Colonel Meyrick

1850.—June.

Elected 1848.	*Elected* 1849.	*Elected* 1850.
C. Kitson	Capt. J. H. Lee	W. Harvey
W. Wish	J. T. Harvey	W. Kitson
R. Stark	C. Dashwood	R. H. Taylor
R. Slade	W. R. Jolley	George Dreaton
John Rossiter	John Mare	S. Bridgman
George Fisher	Colonel Meyrick	George H. Harris

THE LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

[The names in small capitals indicate the Chairman of the Board for the year.]

The Public Health Act having been adopted in 1850, an election of twelve members to constitute the new Local Board took place on the 26th of Sept., the following being the result :—

W. KITSON	E. Vivian	W. Wish
R. Stark	J. Mare	R. S. S. Cary
J. T. Harvey	S. Bridgman	J. Rossiter
W. N. Peckins	G. H. Harris	C. R. Dashwood

1851.

The election of four members took place on the 1st of March, in the place of S. Bridgman, deceased, R. S. S. Cary, who had not attended any of the meetings, J. Rossiter, who resigned, and Mr. R. Stark, who retired by ballot.

Elected 1850.	*Elected* 1850.	*Elected* 1851.
W. KITSON	J. Mare	R. S. S. Cary
J. T. Harvey	G. H. Harris	R. Stark
W. N. Peckins	W. Wish	W. Harvey
E. Vivian	C. Dashwood	J. H. Lee

1852.—March.

Elected 1850.	*Elected* 1850.	*Elected* 1851.	*Elected* 1852.
W. KITSON	G. H. Harris	R. S. S. S. Cary	W. N. Peckins
W. N. Peckins †	W. Wish †	R. Stark	J. T. Harvey
E. Vivian	C. Dashwood	W. Harvey	R. H. Taylor
J. Mare *	J. T. Harvey †	J. H. Lee	W. Wish

* Withdrawn. † Retired by ballot.

1853.—March.

Elected 1851.	*Elected* 1852.	*Elected* 1853.
R. S. S. Cary	W. N. Peckins	W. KITSON
R. Stark	J. T. Harvey	E. Vivian
W. Harvey	R. H. Taylor	G. H. Harris
J. H. Lee	W. Wish	T. Henderson

1854.—March.

Elected 1852.	*Elected* 1853.	*Elected* 1854.
W. N. Peckins	W. KITSON	C. Kitson
J. T. Harvey	E. Vivian	John Harvey
R. H. Taylor	G. H. Harris	W. Harvey
W. Wish	T. Henderson	W. Farrant

1855.—March.

Elected 1853.	*Elected* 1854.	*Elected* 1855.
W. KITSON	C. Kitson	W. N. Peckins
E. Vivian	John Harvey	Randolph Robinson
G. H. Harris	W. Harvey	J. T. Harvey
T. Henderson	W. Farrant	W. Wakeham

1856.—March.

Elected 1854.	*Elected* 1855.	*Elected* 1856.
C. Kitson	W. N. Peckins	W. KITSON
John Harvey	Randolph Robinson	G. H. Harris
W. Harvey	J. T. Harvey	Dr. C. P. Blake
W. Farrant	W. Wakeham	E. Vivian

1857.—March.

Elected 1855.	*Elected* 1856.	*Elected* 1857.
W. N. Peckins	W. KITSON	C. Kitson
R. Robinson	G. H. Harris	W. Harvey
J. T. Harvey	Dr. C. P. Blake	John Harvey
W. Wakeham	E. Vivian	J. C. Stark

1858.—March.

Elected 1856.	*Elected* 1857.	*Elected* 1858.
W. KITSON	C. Kitson	W. Wakeham
G. H. Harris	W. Harvey	R. H. Taylor
Dr. C. Paget Blake	John Harvey	J. T. Harvey
E. Vivian	J. C. Stark	Randolph Robinson

1859.—March.

Elected 1857.	*Elected* 1858.	*Elected* 1859.
C. Kitson	W. Wakeham	W. KITSON
W. Harvey	R. H. Taylor	A. B. Sheppard
John Harvey	J. T. Harvey	John Thornhill Fisher
J. C. Stark	Randolph Robinson	Dr. C. Paget Blake

1860.—March.

Elected 1858.	*Elected* 1859.	*Elected* 1860.
W. Wakeham	W. Kitson	W. Harvey
R. H. Taylor	A. B. Sheppard	C. Kitson
J. T. Harvey	John Thornhill Fisher	Courtenay Clarke
RANDOLPH ROBINSON	Dr. C. Paget Blake	W. A. Goss

1861.—March.

Elected 1859.	*Elected* 1860.	*Elected* 1861.
W. Kitson	W. Harvey	RANDOLPH ROBINSON*
A. B. SHEPPARD	C. Kitson	Arthur Tower
J. T. Fisher	Courtenay Clarke	N. B. Edmonstone
C. Paget Blake	W. A. Goss	J. T. Harvey
		W. Wakeham

*Arthur Tower was elected in November in the place of Mr. Robinson, who resigned. Mr. Sheppard was appointed Chairman of the Board.

1862.—March.

Elected 1860.	*Elected* 1861.	*Elected* 1862.
W. Harvey	N. B. Edmonstone	W. Kitson
C. Kitson	Arthur Tower	A. B. SHEPPARD
Courtenay Clarke	J. T. Harvey	Thomas Short
W. A. Goss	W. Wakeham	Dr. C. B. Nankivell

1863.—March.

Elected 1861.	*Elected* 1862.	*Elected* 1863.
Arthur Tower	W. Kitson	C. Kitson
N. B. Edmonstone	A. B. SHEPPARD	W. Harvey
J. T. Harvey	T. Short	W. A. Goss
W. Wakeham	Dr. C. B. Nankivell	G. Dreaton

1864.—March.

Elected 1862.	*Elected* 1263.	*Elected* 1864.
W. Kitson	C. Kitson	John Harvey
A. B. SHEPPARD	W. Harvey	N. B. Edmonstone
T. Short	W. A. Goss	W. Wakeham
Dr. C. B. Nankivell	G. Dreaton	J. T. Harvey

1865.—March.

Elected 1863.	*Elected* 1864.	*Elected* 1865.
C. Kitson	John Harvey	W. Kitson
W. Harvey	N. B. Edmonstone	A. B. SHEPPARD
W. A. Goss	W. Wakeham	T. J. Shapley
G. Dreaton	J. T. Harvey	C. B. Nankivell

1866.—March.

Elected 1864.	*Elected* 1865.	*Elected* 1866.
John Harvey	W. Kitson	W. Harvey
N. B. Edmonstone	A. B. SHEPPARD	C. Kitson
W. Wakeham	T. J. Shapley	R. C. Wilkinson
J. T. Harvey	C. B. Nankivell	T. B. Horne

1867.—March.

Elected 1865.	*Elected* 1866.	*Elected* 1867.
W. Kitson	W. Harvey	N. B. Edmonstone
A. B. SHEPPARD	C. Kitson	J. T. Harvey
T. J. Shapley	R. C. Wilkinson	John Harvey
Dr. C. B. Nankivell	T. B. Horne	S. Cash

1868.—March.

Elected 1866.	*Elected* 1867.	*Elected* 1868.
W. Harvey	N. B. Edmonstone	W. Kitson
C. Kitson	J. T. Harvey	G. Richardson
R. C. Wilkinson	John Harvey	James Murray
T. B. Horne	S. Cash	A. B. SHEPPARD

1869.—March.

Elected 1867.	*Elected* 1868.	*Elected* 1869.
N. B. Edmonstone	W. Kitson	R. C. Wilkinson
J. T. Harvey	G. Richardson	W. H. Cosway
John Harvey	James Murray	W. Harvey
S. Cash*	A. B. SHEPPARD	C. Kitson
	C. B. Nankivell*	

* Mr. Cash resigned in December 1869, and Dr. Nankivell was elected by the Board for the year only, and retired in March 1870.

1870.—March.

Elected 1868.	*Elected* 1869.	*Elected* 1870.
W. Kitson	R. C. Wilkinson	N. B. Edmonstone
George Richardson	W. H. Cosway	J. T. Harvey
James Murray	W. Harvey	J. G. Barley
A. B. SHEPPARD	C. Kitson	P. Michelmore
Dr. Nankivell		

1871.—March.

Elected 1869.	*Elected* 1870.	*Elected* 1871.
R. C. Wilkinson	N. B. Edmonstone	W. Kitson
W. H. COSWAY	J. T. Harvey	G. Richardson
W. Harvey	J. G. Barley	J. Murray
C. Kitson	P. Michelmore	W. T. Bridges

1872.—March.

Elected 1870.	*Elected* 1871.	*Elected* 1872.
N. B. Edmonstone	W. Kitson	R. C. Wilkinson
J. T. Harvey	G. Richardson	W. H. Cosway
J. G. Barley	J. Murray	W. Harvey
P. Michelmore	W. T. Bridges	C. Kitson
		L. B. Bowring *

* Mr. L. B. Bowring was elected on the 6th of July, 1872, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. N. B. Edmonstone, for the remainder of that gentleman's term.

1873.—March.

Elected 1871.	*Elected* 1872.	*Elected* 1873.
W. Kitson	R. C. Wilkinson	L. B. Bowring
G. Richardson	W. H. Cosway (now Halliday)	Dr. C. P. Blake
J. Murray	W. Harvey	Major Sole
W. T. Bridges	C. Kitson	J. G. Barley

1874.—March.

Elected 1872.	*Elected* 1873.	*Elected* 1874.
R. C. Wilkinson	L. B. Bowring	W. Kitson
W. H. Halliday	Dr. C. P. Blake	W. T. Bridges
W. Harvey	Major Sole	J. Murray
C. Kitson	J. G. Barley	G. Richardson
		Dr. Nankivell *
		J. Jefferies †

* Dr. Nankivell was elected on the 7th of April for one year, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Mr. Wilkinson. † Mr. Jefferies was elected in the place of Mr. Halliday, who retired 2nd of June, 1874.

1875.—April.

Elected 1873.	*Elected* 1874.	*Elected* 1875.
L. B. Bowring	W. Kitson	James Jefferies
C. Paget Blake	W. T. Bridges	C. Kitson
H. W. Sole	James Murray	W. Harvey
J. G. Barley	G. Richardson	D. Allams
	J. Jefferies	C. N. Cooke *
		G. S. Bridgman †

* Mr. C. N. Cooke was elected a member on the 17th of April, 1875, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Murray. † Mr. G. S Bridgman was elected Dec., 1875, in the place of Dr. Blake retired. Mr. W. Harvey died Dec., 1875; his seat was left for the ratepayers to fill up at the next election.

1876.—April.

Elected 1874.	*Elected* 1875.	*Elected* 1876.
W. Kitson	James Jefferies	J. A. Balsom
W. T. Bridges	C. Kitson	E. Smith
J. Murray	W. Harvey	L. B. BOWRING
G. Richardson	D. Allams	T. J. Shapley
		J. Murray *
		J. G. Barley †

* Mr. Murray was elected for two years in the place of Mr. Bridges resigned. † Mr. J. G. Barley was elected for one year in the place of Mr. W. Harvey deceased.

1877.

Elected 1875.	*Elected* 1876.	*Elected* 1877.
C. Kitson	J. A. Balsom	W. Kitson
J. Jefferies	E. Smith	Geo. Richardson
D. Allams	L. B. BOWRING	W. Gillow
	T. J. Shapley	C. N. Cooke *
	J. Murray	Mr. P. Michelmore

* Mr. Cooke retired immediately after the election, and the place was taken by Mr. P. Michelmore.

OFFICERS:—Briscoe Hooper, Clerk; John Little, Surveyor; W. Gardner, Assistant Surveyor; John Daw, Treasurer; Peter Perring, Accountant; George J. Pepprell, Rate Collector and Assistant Overseer; Thomas Weeks, Superintendent of the Water Works; Samuel Rhind, Medical Officer.

SUBSCRIBERS.

	No.
ABBOTT, Miss, *Torre Square* ..	1
APPLETON, Mr. E., *Kingswear*	2
ATKINSON BROS., *Horwood* ...	1
ASTON, Miss M., *63 Victoria St., Small Heath, Birmingham* ...	1
AYERST, Dr., *Belgrave Terrace*	1
BALL, Mr. W., *Montpellier House*	1
BEDFORD, Mr. GEO., *St. Mary-Church*	1
BARNETT, Mr. GEO., *Birstal* ...	2
BEER, Mr. H. M., *21 Higher Union Street*	1
BISHOP, Mr. E., *Montrose* ...	1
BLACKLER, Mr. A., *St. M. Ch.*	2
BOLT, Mr., *Queen's Hotel*... ...	2
BOLTON, Mrs., *The Pines* ...	1
BOVEY, Mr., *Lower Union St.*..	1
BRIDGES, Mr. W. T., *Torwood*	1
BRIDSON, Major, *Rockend* ..	1
BRIDGMAN, Mr. G. SOUDON ...	1
BRIDGMAN, Mr. M., *Paignton*	1
BOYLE, Rev. W. S., *Glenfriars*	1
BROWN, Mrs., *Florian*	2
BRADNEE, Mr., *Fleet Street* ...	1
BROCK, Mr., *Etruscan Lodge, St. Mary-Church*	1
BROOMHEAD, Mr. R. M., *Birmingham*	1
BROWNLOW, Rev. W. R., *The Presbytery, St. Mary-Church* .	1
BUTLAND, Mr. R., *Rock Road* .	1
CARROLL, Mr. J. K., *Torquay* .	1
CARY, Mr. R. S. S., *Torr Abbey*	1
CARY, Mrs. STANLEY, *Clovelly*	1
CASH, Dr. MIDGLEY, *Crossfield*	2
CASH, Mr. S., *Victoria & Albert Hotel*	1
CAWDLE, Mr., *Lower Union St.*	1
CHAPMAN, Rev. C., *Stolzenfels*	2
CHENOWETH, Mr., *Cary Place*	1
CHENOWETH, Mr., junr. „	1
CHATTO, Mr. W. P., *The Daison*	1
CHUBB, Mr. J., *Elstow Terrace*	1
CLAYTON, Mr. B., *Glenfinnan*	1
CLARK, Mr. AUDUS, *Wentworth*	1
COLLETTE, Mr. C., *Highclere*...	1
COOPER, Mr. GEORGE, *Exeter*...	1
COOMBS, Miss, *Northcourt* ...	1
CROCKWELL, Mr. T. R., *Verney House*	1
CROCKWELL, Mr. H., *Fleet St.*	1
COPPING, Mr. H., *Market Street*	2
CURTIS, Mr. H., *Rosery House*	1
CUSHWAY, Mrs. J. C., *Oldway, Paignton*...	1
D'ALMAINE, Mr. GEO., *Baltimore, U.S.A*....	1
DAVEY, Mr. W., *4 Hatfield Ter.*	1
DAVIS, Rev. W. B., *Apsley House*	1
DAVIS, Sir J. F., Bart., K.C.B., *Hollywood, Bristol*...	1
DAVY, Mr. A. J., *Fleet Street*...	1
DAW, Mr. S. J., *Highcliff* ...	1
DODGE, Mr. J., *Madrepore Place*	1
DRINKWATER, Mr. P. B., *Lyncombe*	1
DE VANE, Mr., *6 Meliora Cotts.*	1
EARLE, Mr. R., *Braddons Road*	1
ECCLES, Mr. T., *Darwen Bank*	1
EDWARDS, Mr. T., *Union Street*	1
EASTLEY, Mr. YARDE, *Paignton*	1
EVANS, Mr., *Belgrave Road* ...	3
FISHER, Mr. W. T. J., *Fleet Street*	1
FISHER, Mrs., *Shenley*	2
FOWLER, Mr. C., *Villa Mentone*	1
FREEMAN, Mr., *Fleet Street* ...	1
GABRIEL, Mrs. E. M., *Wilmington, Cleveland Road*	1
GARDNER, Mr. W., *Victoria Cot.*	1
GASTON, Mrs., *Redclyffe*	2
GLASBY, Mrs., *14 Scarboro' Ter.*	1
GREENFIELD, Mr. J., *Hollacombe*	1
GOSS, Mr. W. A., *Ellacombe* ...	1
GOSSE, Mr. P. H., *Sandhurst, St. Mary-Church*	2
GUYER, Mr., *Strand*	1
HAMLYN, Mr. W. B., *4 Abbey Crescent*	1

	No.
HAMLYN, Mr. J., *Woodleigh, St. Mary-Church*	3
HANBURY, Mr. SAMPSON, *Bishopstowe*	3
HALIBURTON, Mrs., *Grafton* ...	3
HALL, Dr. C. RADCLYFFE, *Derwent House*	4
HANNAFORD, Mr. THEO., *Totnes*	1
HARLAND, Mr. C. J., *Castle College*	1
HASELGROVE, Mr. J. M., *Torre Mount*	1
HEARDER, Mr. G., *Torwood St.*	1
HEARDER, Mr. W., *Rocombe* ...	1
HAYWOOD, Mr. JOHN, *Higher Union Street*	1
HEMMANS, Capt., *Paignton Rd.*	1
HICKS, Mr. JOHNSON, *Brunswick House*	1
HOLLINS, Mr. C., *Clinton* ...	1
HODGE, Mr. G., *Strand*	1
JEFFERY, Miss LIZZIE, *Ashted Row, Birmingham*	1
JEWKES, Mr. JOSEPH, *Wolverhampton*	1
KARKEEK, Mr. P. Q., *Matlock Terrace*	1
KING & WHITAKER, *London* ...	1
KITSON, Mr. W., *Hengrave* ...	2
KITSON, Mr. C., *Collaton* ...	1
KITSON, Mr. W.H., *Hemsworth*	1
KITSON, Mr. J., *Fairfield* ...	1
KITSON, Mr. C. W., *9 Wellswood Park*	1
KITSON, Rev. T., *Shiphay* ...	1
LANE, Mr. J., *Bannercross* ...	1
LAVERS, Mr. W., *Upton Leigh*..	1
LEE, Mrs., *Balsdon*	1
LOMBE, Dr., *Bemerton*	1
LUSCOMBE, Mr. J., *6 Scarbro' Ter.*	1
LUSCOMBE, Miss, *Vaughan Parade*	1
MACONCHY, Mr., *Corrinagh* ...	1
MACLEAN, Mr., *Compton* ...	1
MAC DOUGALL, Miss, *Belgrave Terrace*	1
MACREIGHT, Dr., *Tulchan* ...	1
MACGREGOR, Major-General Sir GEO., K.C.B., *Glenearnock* ...	1
MANLEY, Mr. H., *Victoria Par.*	1
MASTERS, Mr., *Hurst Bank* ...	1
MELHUISH, Mr., *Abbey Road* ...	1
MEMERY, Mr. T., *Churston Cot.*	2
MICHELMORE, Mr.. *Claremont*	1
MORRISH, Mr. SYDNEY, *St. Alban's Terrace*	1
MURRAY, Mr. J., *Victoria Parade*	1
MINIFIE, Mr. W., *Baltimore, U.S.A.*	1
NANKIVELL, Dr., *Layton* ...	1
NANKIVELL, Dr. C., *Park Place*	1
OLIVER, Mr. T., *Lower Union Street*	1
PALK, Sir L., Bart., M.P., *Haldon*	6
PARKS, Mr., *Knockfield*	1
PEPPRELL, Mr. J. G., *26 Abbey Road*	1
PENGELLY, Mr. W., *Lamorna*	1
PETHERICK, Mr. J., *Ordsall* ...	1
PERSHOUSE, Mr., *Tormohun House*	1
PERSHOUSE, Mr. jun., *Tormohun House*	1
PHILLIPPS, Mr. H. C. MARCH, *Wellswood*	1
PITCAIRN, Mrs., *Erinville* ...	1
PINKSTONE, Mr. R. *St. Winifred's*	1
PILLER, Mr. H. CURTIS, *Chelmer*	1
POOK, Mr. R. G., *Coombeinteignhead*	1
PROWSE, Mr. W., *Nutley* ...	2
POPE, Mr. JOHN H., *9 Elstow Terrace*	1
POWELL, Dr. *Hi Garden* ...	1
POLLARD, Mr. W., *Southlands*	1
PRATT, Mr., *Fleet Street*	3
RABY, Mr. S., *5 Sydenham Terrace, Babbacombe*	2
RAMSAY, Dr., *Duncan House*	1
REYNOLDS, Mr. W., *Linwood*	2
REYNOLDS, Miss, *Hareston* ...	1
REMFRY, Mr. G. T., *Firsleigh*	1
RANDELL, Miss SUSAN, *Velwell House, Rattery*	1
RICHARDSON, Mr. G., *The Corbyn*	1
RICHARDSON, Mr. CHARLES, *Cary Castle*	2
RIX, Mr., *Nepaul, Croft Road*	1
RIDGEWAY, Col., *Sheplegh* ...	2
ROBSON, Mr. R., *Glenholme* ...	1
ROWELL, Mr. W. J., *Newton* ...	1
RODWAY, Major, *Vale Lodge* ...	2
ROYLE, Mr. S., *Rusholme, Manchester*	1
SAVILE, Rev. F. A. STEWART	1

	No.
SAUNDERS, Mr. A. T., *Fleet Street*	1
SEYMOUR, Mr. G. S., *Warberry Hill, Weston-super-Mare* ...	2
SHAPLEY, Mr. T., *Hagley House*	2
SHAPLEY, Mr. E. S., *Rokeby* ...	2
SHINNER, Mr. JAMES, *Hele* ...	1
SHEPPARD, Mrs. A. B., *The Hove*	1
SMITH, Mr. E., *Strand*	1
SMALE, Mr. W. B., *Union Street*	1
SOLE, Major, *Hareston*	1
SOLE, Mrs., *Hareston*	1
STEDHAM, Mr. T., *Union Street*	1
STOREY, Mr. W., *Overton* ...	1
SPRAGGE, Mr. F. H., *Paignton*	1
STARK & Co., *Strand*	2
STARK, Mrs. ANNIE, *The Engadine*	2
TAYLOR, Mr. T., *Union Street* ...	1
THOMAS, Mr. F., *Strand*... ...	1
THOMSON, Dr. SPENCER, *Ashton*	1
TRIPE, Mr. G. M., *Hazeldean* ..	1
TUCKER, Mr., *Custom House* ...	1
VICCARS, Mr. T., *Newholme* ...	1
VINNING, Mr. W., *Walsingham*	1
VIVIAN, Mr. E., *Woodfield* ...	2
WALTON, Mr. J., *Ennerdale*	1
WATHERSTON, Mr., *Watcombe*	3
WAYMOUTH, Mr.	1
WAY, Mr. C., *Victoria Parade*	2
WATSON, Mr. J., *Winterbourne*	3
WEEKS, Mr. C., *Union Street*	1
WEEKS, Mr. T., *Oaklands* ...	1
WESTLEY & Co., *Strand*... ...	6
WHITE, Mr. G. H., *Glenthorne, St. Mary-Church*	1
WINGET, Mr. W., *Pembroke Villa*	1
WEBB, Miss, *29 Chesham Place, London*	1
WINSBORROW, Mr. J. T. ...	1
WIDGER, Mr. W., *Union Street*	1
WILKINSON, Mr. W. P. *Vic. Par.*	1
WOLFE, Rev. Preb., *Arthington*	1
WOLLEN, Mr. G., *Glengariffe*	1
WRIGHT, Lieut.-Col. ICHABOD, *Watcombe Park*	2

TORQUAY AS A PLACE OF EDUCATION FOR DELICATE BOYS.

TORQUAY being eminently suited for Boys who are more or less DELICATE, many parents will find it answer well to send such Boys there, instead of taking or sending them at great expense and inconvenience to foreign health resorts, or allowing them to struggle against climates where they do not thrive.

The Rev. W. BROCKLESBY DAVIS, M.A., has invested a large capital in obtaining one of the best houses, excellently suited, standing in nearly Five Acres of Pleasure Grounds, 100 feet above the sea; and his experience of more than twenty years enables him to offer sound preparation for the Public Schools and the Universities, &c., at the same time that he can guarantee judicious treatment of special cases for health and education.

The numbers are limited. Boys are received from eight years of age; the elder boys are separate from the younger ones; the rooms are very large and airy.

Terms from £100. The highest references are given. Address, APSLEY HOUSE, Torquay.

We feel sure that many parents would do well to consider it (Torquay) for boys who are not strong enough for Public School life, but who in all probability may become fairly strong men by judicious treatment in such a climate. We know that many have derived substantial advantages from a residence there for a few years, and we are happy to be able to point out a school where we know boys can be placed with confidence, that they will be judiciously treated in mind and body, on the principles of *mente sana in corpore sano*. The Rev. W. B. Davis has had long experience in utilising the climate for the benefit of such boys, having established a place of education in one of the best houses in the place, excellently situated at a good elevation above the sea, affording very ample accommodation for health and recreation. "Apsley House," well known as a fashionable hotel, where the French Royal Family resided for some years, and also where the Grand Duchess Marie of Russia stayed on two occasions, has been procured at considerable outlay for this purpose. We have confidence in speaking well of this establishment, having seen the very high testimony borne by parents of boys who have for many years benefited by the care and kind influence of the Principal. Nothing can be higher than the terms in which they mention their appreciation of the physical and mental benefits which their sons have received; while the success of many pupils at the Public Schools and the Universities, &c., proves that mental training has not been lost sight of in the care of the body.—*Land and Water.*

FREDERICK THOMAS

HATTER

HOSIER, GLOVER, SHIRT-MAKER,

And Gentleman's Outfitter,

3 STRAND, TORQUAY,

Respectfully invites attention to his Choice assortment of Goods.

NOVELTIES IN EVERY DEPARTMENT

CONSTANTLY SHOWING.

Specialities in Hats, Scarfs, Collars, Hosiery, & Gloves.

SHIRTS MADE TO ORDER, AND GUARANTEED TO FIT.

45/- 51/- and 57/- the Half-dozen.

Instructions for self-measurement free by Post.

A LARGE STOCK OF THE BEST QUALITY

Merino, Lambswool, Gauze, and Silk Hosiery,

For Ladies', Gentlemen's, and Children's wear.

TRUNKS, PORTMANTEAUS, HAT CASES, BAGS,

And every description of Travelling Equipage.

Five per cent. discount allowed for all ready-money purchases.

FREDERICK THOMAS, 3 STRAND.

ESTABLISHED NEARLY HALF A CENTURY.

HEARDER'S TORBAY MEDICINE ESTABLISHMENT,

PROPRIETORS:

W. HEARDER & T. RICHES,

Family and Dispensing Chemists,

Opposite the Royal Hotel, TORQUAY.

Respectfully solicit your patronage.

T. RICHES, for 14 years Principal Dispenser and Medical Store Keeper of Her Majesty's Naval Hospitals at Greenwich & Plymouth.

Branch Establishment—Medical Hall, St. Mary-Church.

The Watcombe Terra-Cotta Co.

LIMITED,

ST. MARY-CHURCH, TORQUAY.

THE Company manufacture Art Pottery of very high class, in great variety, both glazed and unglazed. Amongst the former are some

NOVELTIES

just brought out, well deserving the attention of the Public.

The Works at Watcombe may be seen by Visitors on application to Mr. CHAS. BROCK, the Manager.

N.B.—*This Company has had awarded to them by the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, Falmouth, two first-class Medals (one silver and one bronze); they also hold a Medal from the International Commissioners, South Kensington, and have been awarded one by the Centennial Commissioners, Philadelphia, U.S.A.*

It is necessary to CAUTION the Public that the manufactures of this Company are only to be obtained in Torquay at Mr. BOVETT'S, The Rotunda, Torwood Street, and at Messrs. WESTLEY & Co.'s, 10 Strand.

The Show-room at the Works is open every day (Sundays excepted).

CHARLES BROCK, *Manager.*

IMPERIAL HOTEL,

TORQUAY.

THIS HOTEL, OPEN FOR FAMILIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AFFORDS

Accommodation unequalled in the West of England.

LADIES' COFFEE ROOM, READING ROOM, BILLIARD ROOM, &c.

SOUTH ASPECT. SEA VIEW.

Near the Baths, Beacon Hill, and the Club.

OMNIBUSES AND FLYS MEET THE TRAINS.

TABLE D'HÔTE AT SEVEN O'CLOCK.

GEORGE MUSSEY,

MANAGER.

ESTABLISHED 1840.

UNION STREET AND WELLSWOOD DAIRY,

BOVEY & Co., PROPRIETORS,

23 LOWER UNION ST. & 3 WELLSWOOD PLACE

TORQUAY.

Families Supplied with New Milk, Butter, Eggs, Raw and Scald Cream, Junkets, &c.

Cream packed and sent by Rail to any part of the United Kingdom.

THE TORQUAY

BREWING AND TRADING COMPANY

LIMITED.

Brewery & Wine & Spirit Stores, 34 Fleet Street, Torquay.

Dinner Ale and Porter.
Strong & Pale Ales & Stout.
Torquay Half-Guinea Ale.
Burton Flavoured Ale.
Wines, in every variety.
Brandy and other Spirits.
Liqueurs and Cordials.

Soda Water, Lemonade, &c.
Wines and Spirits in Bond.
Bass & Allsopp's Mild Ales.
,, ,, East India Ale.
,, ,, In Bottle.
Guinness's Stout, Cask & Bottle.
Champagne Cider.

D. COOMBE,

BREAD AND BISCUIT BAKER,

Pastry Cook and Confectioner,

12 LOWER UNION STREET,

TORQUAY.

Wedding and School Cakes made to order.

A Discount of 2d. in 1/- off for Cash.

SEELEY'S LIBRARY,

IN CONNECTION WITH MUDIE'S,

OPPOSITE THE TREE, TORQUAY.

An entirely NEW SERIES, superior to anything taken before, of

TORQUAY PHOTOS,

MOUNTED OR UNMOUNTED,

Also in Books, from 5/- to £2 2s.

PLAYING CARDS.

A VARIETY OF ELEGANTLY-BOUND BOOKS

IN MOROCCO AND TREE-CALF.

VALENTINE'S

PHOTOS OF SCOTCH SCENERY,

IN HANDSOME MOROCCO BINDING,

Suitable for Presentation, from 21/- to £5 5s.

E. L. S. begs to call attention to his extensive Assortment of

STATIONERY.

ESTABLISHED 1815.

WILKINSON & Co.,

Wine and Brandy Merchants,

24 VICTORIA PARADE,

TORQUAY.

As nearly the whole of our Wines are specially selected and shipped direct to our Bonded Stores, whence they are bottled here (Sparkling excepted) by most experienced cellarmen, under our personal supervision, we are enabled to give the best possible value.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

ALE, STOUT, AND CIDER BOTTLERS.

E. P. BOVEY,

BUILDER & CONTRACTOR

TORQUAY.

Painting and Decorating * Plumbing and Gas-fitting

PAPER HANGING, WHITING & COLOURING.

GENERAL REPAIRS AND CLEANING IN ALL BRANCHES BY EXPERIENCED WORKMEN.

Office and Works near the Museum, TORWOOD.

ESTABLISHED 1805.

THOMAS OLIVER

37 LOWER UNION STREET & 37 TORWOOD STREET, TORQUAY,

Cabinet Manufacturer,

UPHOLSTERER & DECORATOR,

CARPET, FLOOR-CLOTH, & BEDDING WAREHOUSEMAN.

INVITES inspection of his new Show Rooms recently erected with every facility for conducting the Business and the better display of his large and varied Stock, consisting of Modern, Decorative, Antique, and other Furniture of novel and artistic design and superior manufacture.

BEDSTEADS IN BRASS, IRON, AND WOOD, IN GREAT VARIETY

Sole Agent for the Sanitary Spiral Spring Mattress & many other Specialities.

Importer of Foreign Carpets, Silks, Utrecht Velvets, Tapestries, Cretonnes, and all leading Novelties in Upholstery Fabrics and Trimmings.

FLOOR-CLOTHS, CORTICINE, LINOLEUM, AND OTHER FLOOR COVERINGS,
In all widths up to 8 yards kept in Stock.

MATS AND MATTINGS.

Choice Designs in Wall Papers, Dados, and Borders.

THE REPAIRS, PAINTING & DECORATION OF HOUSES UNDERTAKEN.

BEDDING AND WINDOW BLINDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION MANUFACTURED ON THE PREMISES.

HOUSE AGENT, AUCTIONEER, & VALUER.

Register of Houses free on application.

UNDERTAKER.

Funerals conducted under the personal care of the Proprietor.

Residence—37 TORWOOD STREET.

THE STOCK OF CARPETS, which includes all the best makes and most exclusive designs, is kept at 37 TORWOOD STREET.

Cabinet and Upholstery Factories AND Depôt for Warehousing Furniture & Goods } Temperance Street AND Factory Row.

R. GRANT & SON

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

36 Union Street, Torquay,

HAVE ALWAYS IN STOCK

Very Choice Old Ports and Sherries,

FRENCH & GERMAN WINES, ETC.,

ALSO,

BEST OLD QUALITY SPIRITS.

Agents for Allsopp's & Bass's India Pale and Mild Burton Ales, and Guinness's Dublin Extra Stout, in Cask or Bottle.

BEST SPARKLING CHAMPAGNE CIDER.

SOLE APPOINTED AGENTS IN TORQUAY FOR

Baggett's Celebrated Nourishing London Stout, and the Golden Hop Pale Ale,

IN CASK OR BOTTLE.

St. Winifred's, Abbey Road.

DAY SCHOOL,

CONDUCTED BY

R. PINKSTONE, and Assistant Teachers.

THE Course of Study embraces Religious Instruction, Reading, Writing, English Grammar and History, Mathematics, Book-keeping, French, Latin, German, Italian, Political and Physical Geography, the Natural Sciences, Drawing, &c.

Evening Classes

Are also held for Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, Writing, French, Science, History, Singing, and Bible Instruction.

Terms, and further particulars, on application.

St. Winifred's Loan Library,

Containing over 3,000 Volumes, and to which additions are constantly being made.

7/6 per annum, one vol. per week; 12/- for two or more.

BOOKS BY THE VOLUME.

W. PROWSE,

Ale, Beer, and Porter Brewer,

FLEET STREET, TORQUAY.

The Oldest Brewery in the Neighbourhood.

AGENT FOR IND, COOPE, & CO.'S BURTON AND PALE ALES.

G. TAVERNER & SON,

GENERAL FORAGE DEALERS,

1 & 2 Rock Road, Torquay.

Horses supplied with Hay, Corn, Bran, Beans, Chaff, &c., or by Contract if required.

Stores: { Opposite the Church, West Teignmouth.
New Exeter Street, Chudleigh.

J. TAVERNER, Agent.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

J. FOURAKER & SON,

Furnishing & General Ironmongers,

Smiths, Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Bell Hangers,

ZINC, COPPER, IRON, & TIN-PLATE WORKERS,

GUNSMITHS, &c.,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS,

GRATE & KITCHEN STOVE MANUFACTURERS,

29 Victoria Parade, Torquay.

Dealers in Table and Pocket Cutlery, Tea Urns, Electro-plated Goods, Lamps and Lamp Oils, Gas Fittings, Baths, Travelling Trunks, Coal Vases, &c.

MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF

FISHING TACKLE.

BATHS, LAMPS, GUNS, &c., ON HIRE.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

WITH TASTE, ACCURACY, & DESPATCH,

AT THE OFFICES OF

The Torquay Directory Newspaper,

HIGHER FLEET STREET.

Menus, Ball Programmes, Visiting and At Home Cards.

CIRCULARS, NOTE HEADS, IN MEMORIAM CARDS,

SERMONS, PAMPHLETS, REPORTS, RULES, LEAFLETS,

POSTERS, HAND BILLS. CHEQUES, &c.

Orders addressed to WM. WINGET will receive prompt attention.

A. J. DAVY,

House Agent, Auctioneer, and Appraiser,

23 FLEET STREET, TORQUAY.

A Printed Register of Houses and Estates to be Let or Sold, Furnished or Unfurnished, issued Monthly, and sent Free to any address.

THE TORQUAY DIRECTORY NEWSPAPER,

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AFTERNOON. PRICE 2D.

IS THE PRINCIPAL PAPER BETWEEN EXETER AND PLYMOUTH, AND CONTAINS

A complete Directory of the Town and Neighbourhood;
The latest Arrivals, Removals, and Departures;
Local Objects of Interest, with means of access and distances by Road or Rail;
Full Reports of Local News; Items of General News;
Railway Time Tables; Carriage Fares;
Local Offices and Officials; and everything of General Interest.

TO BE HAD OF ALL NEWSAGENTS.

The "Torquay Directory" has the largest local circulation, and is the best medium for Advertisers.

French Millinery, Mantle & Costume

ESTABLISHMENT,

40 & 41 FLEET STREET, TORQUAY.

PETER THOMAS

Begs respectfully to invite the patronage of Residents and Visitors to the various Departments of his Stock of

GENERAL DRAPERY,

Which are now replete with the choicest Novelties of the Season.

MILLINERY, MANTLE, & COSTUME SHOW ROOMS.

Flowers, Feathers, Ribbons, Trimmings, Laces, & Fancy Goods.

DRESSES IN ALL THE NEWEST MATERIALS.

BLACK AND COLOURED SILKS.

The most reputed makes. Wear guaranteed.

FLANNELS, CALICOES, LONGCLOTHS, SHEETINGS.

HOSIERY, GLOVES, TIES, UMBRELLAS.

IRISH AND SCOTCH LINENS, COUNTERPANES, BLANKETS, AND TOILETTES.

Family Mourning. Funerals completely Furnished.

A liberal Discount given to Charities.

DRESSMAKING AND MANTLE-MAKING, IN THE LATEST STYLE.

VICTORIA HOUSE, TORQUAY.



SHAPLEY & AUSTIN'S

(Late Carroll & Shapley's)

STRAND

TEA, COFFEE, PROVISION, & GENERAL GROCERY

WAREHOUSE.

Importers of French, American, and Continental Produce.

Coffee Roasted several times Weekly.

DEPÔT FOR

BRAND & Co.'s Concentrated Beef Tea, Chicken Broth, Turtle Soup, and other Specialities for Invalids.
Preserved Provisions for Yachts or Family use.
Farinaceous and Nutritious Articles for the Nursery, Invalids, &c.
Fruits for Dessert and Culinary Purposes.
French Confectionery, Bonbons, Cosaques, &c.
Scotch Oat Cakes and Shortbread.
Pates de Foies Gras in Tins and Terrines.
Foreign and English Cheese.
French and English Chocolate and Cocoa.
Jams, Jellies, and Marmalade.

W. & A. GILBEY'S Wines and Spirits.
BASS'S Ales in Cask and Bottle.
GUINNESS'S Stout do. do.
DEVENISH'S Ales do. do.
Champagne Cider do. do.

AËRATED WATER MANUFACTURERS.

PROPRIETORS OF THE TORQUAY GINGER ALE.

2 THE STRAND, TORQUAY.

Warehouses, SWAN STREET.

THE QUEEN'S HOTEL

TORQUAY,

FACING THE STRAND.

H. C. BOLT, Proprietor.

Yachting Gentlemen and their Families

Will find every comfort and accommodation at this Hotel,

WHICH IS THE NEAREST TO THE NEW HARBOUR.

WINES, SPIRITS, AND ALES, OF THE BEST QUALITY.

Supplied at Wholesale Prices.

PUBLIC LUNCHEON DAILY, FROM 12 TO 4.

TABLE D'HÔTE, 6.30.

LONDON BOOT AND SHOE DEPÔT

LOWER TERRACE, TORQUAY.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

J. C. CHENOWETH & SON

INVITE attention to their large and varied STOCK of LADIES', GENTLEMEN'S, YOUTHS', and CHILDREN'S WALKING, HOUSE, and EVENING BOOTS, SHOES, and SLIPPERS, suitable for the present season.

A well-assorted STOCK of FRENCH BOOTS and SHOES, by PINET, GERVAIS, and other noted makers.

LOWER TERRACE, TORQUAY.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

HEARDER & GRIMSHAW,

Importers of Wines and Spirits,

ALE MERCHANTS,

MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,

Also Growers and Bottlers of

DEVONSHIRE CHAMPAGNE CIDER,

TORQUAY.

Offices, Cellars, and Mineral Water Manufactory,
Adjoining the Victoria Club, TORQUAY,

Bonded Stores, DARTMOUTH.

Sole Agents for Ind, Coope, & Co.'s Romford Ales,
and for the Hungarian Wine Growers.

DA 690 .T69 .W5 C.1
The history of Torquay,
Stanford University Libraries
3 6105 036 708 969

DA
690
T69 W5

DATE DUE

STANFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA
94305